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## **AUTHORITY**

AGO, D/A ltr, 30 Nov 1979

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# AD 511097

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

A., A. M. (31 Aug 70)

FOR OT UT 702053

4 September 1970

\* E.T: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 5th Special Forces Group, Period Ending 30 April 1970 (U)

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2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate nenefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

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Major General, USA The Adjutant General

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#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS

5TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE), 149 SPECIAL FORCES
APO San Francisco 96240

AVGB-C

15 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

THRU: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam
ATTN: AVHOC-DST, APO San Francisco 96375
Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific
ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO San Francisco 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development Department of the Army Washington, D.C. 20310

- 1. (C) Section I, Operations: Significant Activities.
  - a. General.
- \*(1) Mission: The missions assigned to the 5th SFGA that have a classification of not higher than Confidential are as follows:
  - (a) To exercise command and control of subordinate detachments.
- (b) To advise and assist the Vietnamese Special Forces (VNSF) and support the Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) Program.
  - (c) To provide intelligence to COMUSMACV.
  - (d) To conduct special operations.
  - (e) To conduct the MACV Recondo School.
  - (f) To act as Sector/Subsector advisors as directed by COMUSMACV.
- (2) Organisational Structure. See organisational chart at Inclosure 1, troop disposition lists at Inclosure 3, and Corps Tactical Zone (CTZ) maps at Inclosure 4.
  - (3) Commanders and Key Personnel. See list at Inclosure 2.
- NOTE: Missions with Secret classification are found in MACV Directive 10-11, dtd 1 Nov 68 and Combined Campaign Plan AB 145, dtd 31 Oct 69.

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SUBJECT: Operational Peport-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. PCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

(4) Situation at the Reginning of the Period. In I CTZ, Special Forces assets experienced a decrease in enemy activity. Operations from Camp THUONG TUC experienced several contacts with up to company size enemy units in the northwestern portions of the Camp's TAOR. The Special Forces Camp at HA THANH was the only other camp which made several contacts with enemy forces, all other camps experienced a low level of enemy activity. II CTZ Special Forces assets also experienced a low number of enemy contacts during the month. In KONTU! Province, contacts were sporadic as enemy forces conducted light artacks by fire against Camp DAK PEK. In the central portion of II CTZ, enemy elements were centered around Camp PLEI MRONG. A FM captured on 14 February six Milometers northwest of PLEI MRONG, identified the Early Warning Section, 24th NVA Regiment. The PW further stated that the 4th Bn, 24th NVA Regiment and the regimental headquarters were located within Rase Area 701, while the K-6 Bn was located along Highway LL, approximately six kilometers northwest of the camp. On 17 February an estimated 300 VC initiated contact with a plateon size operation from Camp PLEI ME, ten kilometers northnorthwest of the camp. The enemy unit responsible for the attack was probably an element of the 4th Bn, 95B NVA Regiment, which was known to be operating in the area. In III CTZ enemy activity was at a low level throughout the month with the exception of the 3d MSFC's area of operations in LONG MHADH Province and Camp BEN SOI'S TACR, TAY NINH Province. In PHUCC LUNG Province, enemy activity consisted of light attacks-by-fire directed mainly against TRB's in the northern portion of the province. Camp BU DOP received four light attacks-by-fire while Camp DUC PRONG received one. Elements of the 275th VC and 17th NVA Regiments, 5th VC Division, were both identified by documents captured during the month and were probably responsible for the activity in the province. During the reporting period there was also an increase in reports of enemy food shortages throughout the province. These reports were somewhat sustained by the low level of enemy activity. In RINH LCG Frovince, enemy activity consisted of small unit contacts, the majority of which involved elements of the 7th NVA Division. The lilst NVA Regiment 7th NVA Division, was identified on three separate occasions in an area 10 to 15 Milometers northeast of Camp LCC NINH, while the 209th NVA Regiment, 7th MVA Division, remained in an area six to ten kilometers southwest of RW DOP along the RIM ICNG/PHUOC LONG Province border. Elements of the 165th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, were identified during the last week of February in an area eight to ten kilometers northwest of Camp TONG LE CHON, TAY NINH Province, possibly indicating that elements of the regiment had redeployed from their former area of operations, along the BINH LONG/PHUCC LONG Province border, northwest of LOC NINH. In TAY NINH Province, Camp BEN SOI experienced an increase in activity during the period 1 to 9 February. On 1 February, the camp received a ground attack by an estimated enemy sapper platoon. On 7 and 9 February, CSF operations engaged an estimated enemy company 10 kilometers west of the camp. Intelligence sources reported that elements of

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the 1st Battalion, 272d VC Regiment, 9th VC Division were located north of the camp, and were probably responsible for the activity in BEN SOI's TAOR. Elsewhere in the province, Camp KATUM received seven light attacksby-fire, probably conducted by elements of the 9th VC Division to screen the movement of troops and supplies in and adjacent to the Camp's TAOR. In HAU NGHIA Province, enemy activity consisted of light attacks-by-fire directed against Free World Force installations located along infiltration routes. An intelligence source reported that Sub-Region 2 was organizing a new regiment from units operating in HAU NGHIA Province. The new regiment would reportedly be composed of the 267th and 269th VC and D6B NVA Battalions and would operate in the CUC HOA area. In LONG KHAr'H Province, elements of the 3d MSFC discovered 23 caches, the majority of which were located in an area 10 to 15 kilometers northeast of RANG RANG and conducted over 170 tons of weapons, ammunition, and miscellaneous equipment. The material contained in the caches was probably intended for the use of enemy units operating in Sub-Region 5, as elements of both Sub-Region 5 and the 81st Rear Service Group were identified by documents captured in the RANG RANG area. In IV CTZ anemy-initiated activity remained at a low to mederate level throughout the CTZ, characterized by attacks-by-fire and troop movement. Intelligence sources stated that the enemy would conduct the TET Offensive during this period: however, it failed to materialize due to the apparent failure of the enemy to position troops into his reported target areas and the lack of sufficient food, ammunition, and medical supplies. Major targets were to have included the provincial capitals CHAU DOC, MY THO, and possibly CAN THO Cities and numerous district headquarters, villages, and new life hamlets. Primary emphasis was reportedly to be placed on the eastern areas of the CTZ and the Seven Mountains area. During the first week of the month intelligence sources reported that the 261A, 267B, and 269th VC Main Force Battalions, which normally operate in the central areas of the CTZ, were located to the north in Cambodian border base areas. In addition, the 88th NVA Regiment was reportedly operating in the Crow's Nest area with the intentions of infiltrating DINH TUONG Province to participate in attacks against the MY THO City-DONG TAM area. Intelligence sources further indicated that a large enemy force had moved westward along the Cambodian border to Base Area 704. This unit was believed to have been elements of the 95A NVA Regiment, 5th NVA Division. During the second week of the month the enemy suffered substantial losses in the eastern areas of the CTZ, which were believed to have been an important factor in the enemy's decision to postpone the predicted TET Offensive. On 8 February elements of the Z-7 and Z-8 Battalions, 88th NVA Regiment, were contacted approximately 14 kilometers south of Camp BINH THANH THON. This was the first confirmation of the unit's intentions to infiltrate to the central areas of the CT2. After the contact the unit reportedly returned to the SONG TRANG area of Cambodia to regroup and retrain its personnel. During the remainder of the

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Divisions, explain the low level of activity experienced during the month. In IV CTZ, enemy activity ranged from a moderate to high level throughout the month. During the period 30 March to 6 April, the enemy conducted the initial phase of his Spring-Summer Campaign, which was directed primarily against military installations and district towns in the north-western portion of the CTZ. Enemy activity remained at a moderate level throughout the remainder of the month in the western portion of the CTZ as the enemy attempted to maintain his offensive posture and counter the pacification program. The failure of enemy units to successfully reach their assigned targets in the eastern portion of the CTZ attributes to the substantially lower level of activity experienced in that area.

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#### b. invalligence

- (1) Significant Section Activities
- (a) Collection: During the reporting period the S2 Collection Branch approved a total of 15 Operational Plans and Addenda. Further, a total of 353 coded informants were terminated and 160 prospective agents were toded. The proposed Fiscal Year 1971 budget was submitted and approved by the Group Commander. The budget; decrease was a result of the recent reduction in the 5th SFGA's intelligence mission. As a result of discussions between VNSF and SFGA the Combined Intelligence Assistance Team (CIAT) was discontinued. The CIAT will be used in the future upon individual request and/or when deemed necessary. A complete list of unproductive agents was sent to each of the lettered companies and appropriate detachments, thus encouraging termination of dead weight agents and revitalization of existing nets.

#### (b) Operations:

- l Retrospect studies for February, March, and April were prepared and disseminated. The studies furnished a short history of enemy activity during the corresponding months of 1966, 1967, 1968, and 1969. Conclusions and probable courses of action for 1970 were included. The purpose of the study was to provide 5th SFGA subordinate units with background information on previous enemy activity, as it has been recognized that the enemy often establishes tactical patterns and frequently commemorates particular dates of historical significance with offensive activity.
- 2 I special study of the ethnic, linguistic, and religious groups of South The am was completed and disseminated to subordinate units. The forty-page study was intended to provide 5th SFGA elements with a better understanding of each ethnic group represented within the Republic of Vietnes, to include languages spoken and religions practiced by the various groups. The study was produced as a supplement to the 5th SFGA "A" Detachment Handbook in order to familiarize Special Forces personnel with the peoples with whom they are associated on a daily basis. The study included a basic letter and six inclosures containing the information pertinent to the applicable CTZ and letter company:
- a. Incl 1 A description of the minority ethnic groups within the applicable CTZ.
- b. Incl 2 A listing of ethnic groups residing in provinces containing CIDG cames.
- c. Incl 3 A statistical description of troop ethnic composition in each CID3 camp.

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d. Incl 4 / map portraying within the applicable CTZ the location of rajor ethnic groups.

e. Incl 5 h glossary of terms used in regard to the various ethnic

groups.

f. Incl 6 A brief synopsis of major politico-military ethnic or religious sects.

- 3 The operations section Order of Dattle and 1985 prepared special studies and tactical updater on areas of special interest to the Commanding Officer, 5th 5rdm. The studies, payonal of which were subsquently forwarded to CCDM, CV, included the current tactical situations at Special Forces Comps Phil and and Thun Indeed in I CTZ; FLEI ME, DAN PEK, DAN CLANG, and BEN HET in II CTA; and CMI and, BIGH THANN THON, and BA KCAI in IV CTM. Additionally, a special study of QUANG TRI Province was completed for the Commanding Officer, as was a study of significant activities in the Transforest of IV CTM for the period 2 5 harch 1970; in conjunction with these studies, a special report of date area 704 was completed. Manerous unit studies which prepared on major energy units involved in official activities against special forces assets.
- In The first two Intelligence nullerins of 1970 were issued on 10 and 23 M ril. The bulletins briefed the great of (1) allied countermeasures to enemy uniform attacks, (2) identification of enemy units via thorough rost-attack search of the bettlefield, and (3) the dates of historical significance to the enemy for the month of May.
- 5 in evaluation report of the Special Porces teather Observation Program was provided the Commanding Officer, 5th SrdM.
- 6 On 1 and 2 april, the S2, 5th SFCa conducted an S2 conference attended by C and Baretachment S2's. Problems of common interest were discussed in an attempt to improve the overall intelligence effort of the 5th SFCA in the areas of operations, counterintelligence, and collection.
- (c) Counterintelligence: During the period 13 January to 12 April 1970, the Counterintelligence (CI) Inspection Team conducted 12 announced and 15 unannounced CI inspections of Headquarters staff sections and commanies in 5th SFGI. Results of these inspections served as the basis for tightening of security controls and procedures. Strict compliance with security directives by a'l personnel assigned to the 5th SFGA is essential to the successful accomplishment of the mission of the 5th SFGA.

StB/ECT: Operational Report - Lessons Les ned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period adding 30 April 1970. NCS CSFOR-65 (R-2)

#### (1) 1 Corps Tactical Zone.

- (a) In early February enemy strength (\*) in I CTZ was between 35,000 and30,000 troops, of which approximately 25,000 were combat troops. Contacts and
  enemy activity were at a moderate level during the reporting period, although
  a substantial increase was noted during April as the enemy introduced his SpringSummer Campaign. By the end of April, the enemy was estimated to have between
  \$7,000 and 00,000 personnel of which approximately \$5,000 were combat troops.
  This increase in enemy strength was attributed to the return of elements of the
  30hth, 320th and 32hB NVA bivisions into South Vietnam. At the beginning of the
  reporting period, enemy forces were operating with one division, 12 independent
  regiments, and 59 maneover battalions. At he close of the period, enemy forces
  were operating with two divisions, 15 independent regiments, and 83 to 66 maneuver
  battalions. In addition, approximately 30,000 to 35,000 troops were believed to
  be deployed in Laos and North Vietnam within striking distance of installations
  in South Lethau.
- (t) Laring February, Filter made several significant contacts with enemy forces along the coastel lowlands. The most significant of these was a 15 Febreary content by ARM Rangers in the vicinity of BT118482, nine kilometers south of HOT AM Dity, resulting in 160 MC/NNA killed. The T-89th WC Lain Force and the Fig. No Local Force Battalions were identified during this contact. In THE TRUE Trovince, Camp PAT LAC experienced no significant enemy activities within its TIOP. In TARR NAM Province, the 42nd VC Main Force Reconnaissance and the L-16th AMA Communications Battalions were identifi 'in Base Area 112. On 1 Webrushy, tersonnel from Comp NONG SON experienced various symptoms usually identifi faith 75 gad. This was the first reported instance in this area of the enemy willing a M carebility. Camp operations from THUCNE DUC experienced several contacts with 'N' forces in the northwestern portion of the camp's TAOR, positioly with imments of the lillst NVF Regiment. In QUAL TIN rovince, a camp ore the Frem Tibe 19800 directed camp artitlery on VC/NVA relies in the vicinity of P7051210, eight kilometers northwest of the camp on 10, 12 and 16 February, resulting in a total of 43 VC/NVA killed. A HOT CHA'H, who rallied to the 2nd ARVN Division, stated that a VC FW camp ar hospital complex were located in the vicinity of ATy50055, 17 kilometers southwest of TTEN PHIOC. On 22 and 24 February, AR'N elements discovered two 200-bed hospita, complexes in the vicinity two kilometers east of the HUI CHANH's reported location. The CF ATC re believed to have been operated by the Headquarters, 2nd NVA Division. In QUANG NGAT Province, Special Forces camps experienced a low level of enemy activity, although Camp HA Think! did experience several contacts, possibly with elements of the 120th VC Local Force Bettalion, QUANC NGAI Provincial Force. In addition, ARVN elements discovered a 61-ton rice cache in the vicinity of BS337789, eight kilometers northwest of Camp HA TH/NH. The cache was believed to have bee, destined for elements of the 21st NV/ Regiment, and NVA

NOTE: # includes those units within the DMZ and those in NVN and Laos in close enough proximity to pose a significant tectical threat to I CTZ.

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Division operating in Base area 12b. wuring Harch, enemy activity continued at a moderate level as compared to the level of activity experienced during February. In CUANG TRI Province, the most significant development was the identification of the 812th NVA Regiment, 3443 A. Livisher, saw the 27th NVA Regiment, B-5 Front. Documents discovered on an energy killhed by elements of the lst ARVN Division on 17 March identified the victim as a Certain from the 812th NVA Regiment. This was the first identification of elements of the regiment in ground contact since the unit had infiltrated South Vietness ducking November 1969. The 27th NVA Regiment was identified on D. Force during a contact with ARVN elements in the vicinity of YD038609, nine kilometers northwest of Pamp MAI LOC. Interrogation of three Fis captured during the battle indicated that all of the regiment's maneuver battalion were operating in South Hietner. This was the first confirmed presence of the entire regiment in South Setnam. In COST NAME Province, camp operations from THUCNG DUC hade several significant contacts with unknown-size enemy forces 10 kilometers southwest of the camp between 8 and 10 harch. These contacts were possibly with elements of the Sota Wilderiment, acting as security for the Headquarters, 4th Rol Front. In QUAG Controvince, the most significant event was the 12 harch discovery of an enemy co plex in the vicinity of BT108239, 10 kilcmeters north of Camp Tibil HUOC. Investigation of the complex later revealed that it was a mospital facility capable of serving approximately 80 patients. Contacts with C/NVA forces providing security for the complex resulted in 21 VC/NVA killed and nine captured. In CUANG NGAF Province, Camp operations from 34 TO raised an enemy base camp 1 kilometers northwest of the camp, in the vicinity of BS453374, resulting in eight military structures destroyed. An operation from GI/ VUC initiated contact with an estimated NVA company in the vicinity of E536,417, 14 kilometers north of the comp. Junships and ertillery supported the operation resulting in 20 structures destroyed. The enemy units involved in both centacts were possibly elements of the 21st NVA Regiment, 2nd NVA Division, which had been operating in Base Free 126. During Fril, the enemy conducted his most affective attack against a CING come in I OT since August 1968. On 10 April is QUANG TRI Province, Cap MAI LOC received a ground attack by an estimated reinforced enemy battarion, employing satchel charges, hand granades, and bangalore torpedoes agriest the camp, resulting in 29 friendly killed and 34 wounded; 17 NVA were killed. Interreation of several prisoners captured following the attacks indicated that elements of the 66th WA Regiment, which NVA Division, and the 33rd NVA Sapper Battalian Front, had participated in the attack with the primary mission of killing . pecial Forces personnel. This was the first indication that these units had returned to ..... The 33rd INA Sapper Battalion has not been identified in contact since 31 July 1969, wh'le the 66th NVA negiment had not bee in contact since it attacked and overran former Special Forces Camp LANG VEL on 3 February 1968. In CUANG TIN Frovince, on 12 April, a camp operation f m TIEN PHUCC raided an enomy base camp and subsequently engaged an unknown-size enemy force in the vicinity of STO13037, 12 kilometers southwest of the camp. The anemy unit involved and possibly an element of the 31st Regiment, 2nd NVA Division. In COEAG NOW. Swince, samp operations from HA THANH continued to make contacts with unknown-size enemy forces

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eight to nine kilometers west of the camp, probably with e' ments of the 120th VC Local Force Battalion. In addition, a FAC mission flown on 7 April indicated that an enemy base camp this string of huts, bunkers, and an extensive tunnel complex was incaped in the vicinity of BS232623, 16 kilometers southwest of HA THANH. The base camp was believed to have been occupied by elements of the 120th VC Local Force Battalion. Camp operations from 3A 10 continued to experience enemy resis ance from VC forces eight to ten kilometers north of the camp. The enemy unit involved was possibly the 3-212th VC Local Force Company, which was believed to have seen providing security for the 21 to Regiment, 2nd NVA division. In CUAMO NVA Province that only significant event was the 30 April attacks-by-fire and sapper attack against Camp THICNG DUC. Interrogation of an NVA PW captured following the attack identified the enemy units involved as elements of the 35th (Fig. 50th) NVA Regiment, 3248 NVA Division.

(c) By the end of the reporting period, the enemy remained deployed for offensive activities as he continued the initial phases of his Spring-Summer Campaign. The enemy remained capable of conducting wide-spread, coordinated attacks-by-fire, supported by sapper attacks, against military installations and population centers throughout the CTM. Ath the introduction of several new units throughout the CTM the enem has admittally increased his offensive capabilities. Frevious efficiency displayed by enemy sappers and the increased number of enemy personnel reportedly receiving sapper training indicates that the enemy will rely heavily on these factions in order to gain tactical and psychological victories. Indications are that the enemy will focus his future offensive activities against isolated outposts such as NAI LOC, THUONG DUC, NONG SON, and HA THANH and major population and installation centers such as QUANG NGAI City, DANANG, HUE, and CUANG THI City.

#### (3) If Come Saction 2 ne

- (a) In sarely Sebalary, and my strength was estimated to be 55,900 personnel of which 36,500 were combet troops. Enemy-initiated activity increased from a low level in February to a sigh level in April, with activity being centered within ECETAL Provides. During early April, Camp BEN HET, DAK SEANG, and DAK PER receive accierate to heavy attacks-by-fire, with the enemy utilizing mortars, rockets, and recoilless rifles. Camps DAK SEAN and DAK PEK also received ground probes. By the end of April, enemy strength was estimated to be 56,000 personnel of which 36,000 were combat troops.
- (b) Special Forces assets continued to experience a low number of contacts with the enemy during February. However, Free World Forces continued to restrict the enemy's movement and thereby decrease his capabilitie within BINH DINT Province. A total of approximately 77 tons of rice, amountion, and lood supplies were captured in the province. In ECNTUM Province, enemy activity continued to be sporadic as enemy forces conducted light attacks-by-fire against Camp DAK FEK

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and the surrounding area. On 1 February, the comp received nine rounds of rocket fire, while the district headquarters, which is co-located with the camp, received a ground probe and 33 rounds of 82mm mortar fire, resulting in 60% of the headquarters destroyed. Activity around the camp remained at a moderate level throughout the first week, declining to a low level by the middle of the month. Elsewhere in the northern portion of the CT2, enemy activity was also at a low level. In the central portion of the CTZ, enemy activity was centered around Comp FLEI MPONG. A PW captured on 14 February, in the vicinity of ZA160710, six kilometers northwest of FLEI MRONG, identified the Early Warning Section, 21th NVA Regiment. The PW further stated that the 4th Battalion, 24th NVA Regiment and the regimental headquarters were located with Base Area 701, while the K-6 Battalion, 2hth MVA Regiment, was located along Highway ll, approximately six kilometers northeast of the camp. Throughout the month, intelligence sources continued to indicate that field RONG and PLEIKU City were primary targets for futuve encry offensive activity. On 17 February, an estimated 300 VC initiated contact with a plateon-size operation from Camp PITI MI in the vicinity of ZA200170, 10 kilometers north-northeast of the camp. The enemy unit responsible for the attack was probably an element of the 4th Battalion, 95B NVA Regiment, which was known to be operating in the area. In the southern portion of the CTZ, there was no significant intelligence activity affecting Special Forces assets reported during the month. During Earch, enemy activity was at a moderate level. In KONTUM Province, enemy activity was centered around the DAK TO area with intelligence indicating that the enemy was combining his forces to conduct offensive activity in late March or early April. Order of battle carried elements of the K-20 MVA Sapper Battalion and the 304th and 406th VC Local Force Battalions operating in the area. Intelligence also revealed that due to the recent unsuccessful attacks against DIEN RINH and KON HORING, the 304th VC Local Force Battalion was directed to disperse its subordinate elements into squad-size units with the mission of reverting to guerrilla tactics. Elements of the 4th MSF Battalicn, operating in the southern portion of Camp BEN HET's TAOR, made sporadic contact with up to platoon-size enemy forces. Order of battle carried elements of the K-30 NVA Artillery Battalion, 40th NVA 'rtillery Regiment and the K-80 NVA Infantry Battalion operating in the area. It was possible that the K-33 NVA Artillery Battalion, Woth NVA Artillery Regiment, may have also been operating in the southern portion of BEN HET's TACR. In PLEIKU Province, elements of the 1st MSF Reconnaissance Company and CSF operation made sporadic contact in the southern portion of Camp PLEI MRCNG's TAOR. Intelligence sources revealed that an unidentified battalion was located in the camp's TAOR and had access to various rice and assumition caches in the area. Order of battle carried elements of the K-631 NVA Artillery-Infantry Battalion and elements of the 24th NVA Regiment operating in the area, both capable of co jucting attacks against friendly installations. Free World Forces discovered several rice caches totaling 22 tons in the northern portion of FLEI ME's TAOR. Analysis of intelligence revealed that the enemy was possibly infiltrating through the camp's TAOR. Order of battle carried elements of the 4th Battalion, 958 NVA Regiment operating in the northern portion of the

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camp's TACR. In the southern portion of the CTZ, two PWs captured north of Camp AN LAC identified the H-10-Q Company while documents captured on 9 March in the same vicinity identified the 252nd Transportation Battalion, 250th NVA Transportation Regiment, which was carried by order of battle in the northern portion of the camp's TAOR. Throughout the month intelligence sources indicated that enemy- . initiated activity would increase in the northern portion of the CTZ during April. On 1 April, the enemy initiated the lat Phase of his Spring-Summer Campaign, with attacks-by-fire and limited ground attacks being conducted against all major US/ GVN installations within the CTZ. The most prolonged enemy offensive activity was condicted against Camp DAK SEANG, which received daily barrages of mixed mortar, rock t, and recoilless rifle fire throughout the month. MSF, CSF, and ARVN forces made heavy montact with up to company-size enemy units, while the camp received unknown-size ground probes. On 7 April, CSF personnel conducting a sweep of the camp's perimeter discovered 222 NVA bodies. Also on 7 April, a FW captured one kilometer south of the camp identified his unit as the C-4 Company, 1-1 Battalicn, 28th NVA Regiment. He stated that the K-1 Battalicn was attacking the camp from the southwest, the K-2 Battalion from the north, while the K-3 Battalion was acting as security for the Headquarters, 28th NVA Regiment, and had the mission of clearing and covering the withdrawal phase once the camp had been overrun. He further stated that each bettalion had a transfortation platoon attached and that one platoon of the 40th NVA Artillery Regiment and the C-14 Support Company, 40th NVA Artillery Regiment, with an antiaircraft capability, were located southwest of the camp. The source also stated that prior to his unit's infiltration into DAN SEANG'S TAGE he had overheard cadre from the 66th NVA Regiment discussing plans to reconnoiter the BEN HET area for possible future offensive activity. Another FW, captured ten kilometers west of DAK SEANG, identified the 2nd Transportation Battalion, B-3 Front. Elsewhere in northern KCNTUM Province, Camp DAK FEK received heavy barrages of morter, rocket, receilless rifle, and small arms fire between 12 and 30 April, while MSF and CSF operations made contact with up to company-size enemy units in the area. On 13 April, CSF elements conducted a sweep of the local area and discovered 12h NVA bodies. Intelligence sources continued to indicate that enemy forces were congregating in Base Area 609 and cossibly preparing for offensive activity against Camp BEN HET. Visual reconnaissance missions flown on 9 April revealed numerous bunkers, foxholes, and tunnel complexes within four kilometers nort west of the camp. On 16 April, a !W captured 15 kilometers south of the camp identified his unit as the C2nd Company, 1.-33 Battalion, 40th INA Artillery Regiment. On 29 April, interrogation of a PW captured by CSF personnel fou kilometers northwest of BEN HET revealed that he was a member of the 1.-16 Battalion, 40th NVA Artillery Regiment FW stated that the battalion had the mission of shelling the DAK TO-THANH CANH area in order to draw fire from friendly artillery bases to include Camp BEN HET, thus relaxing the pressure placed on "A troops within the DAK SEANG area. The FW further stated that the C-10 Company was equipped with PT-76 tanks and that they would possibly be utilized against BEN HET in future offensive activity. The only other significant intelligence received throughout the CTZ pertained to the BU PRANG-DUC LAF area, where intelligence sources continued to indicate

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increased enemy activity northwest of BU FRANG. Order of battle carried only elements of the 250th NVA Transportation Regiment operating in the NAM LYR Base Area.

- (c) There was no new use of weapons or equipment in II CTZ during the reporting period.
- (d) At the end of the reporting period, most major enemy units had moved into the northw 'ern portion of KONTUM Province in preparation for the anticipated initiation of the 2nd Phase of the Spring-Summer Campaign. Enemy initiated activity will probably be characterized by moderate to heavy attacks-by-fire, acts of terrorism, and limited ground attacks, and will probably be centralized in KONTUM Province. Armor and field artillery will possibly be used in the attempted sieges of Camps DAK SEANG and BEN HET.

#### (4) III Corps Tactical Zone

- (a) In early February, enemy strength in III CTZ was approximately 51,500 troops, of which 33,500 were combat troops. Contacts and incidents remained at a moderate level with sporadic high and low levels of enemy-initiated ground activity. By the end of April, the enemy was estimated to have 50,300 troops, of which 33,800 were combat troops.
- (b) With the exception of the 3rd MSFC's area of operations in LONG KHANH Province and Camp BEN SOI's TAOR, TAY NINH Province, enemy activity was at a low level throughout February. In PHUCC LONG Province, enemy activity consisted of light attacks-by-fire directed mainly against FSBs in the northern portion of the province. Camp BU DOP received four light attacks-by-ire, while Camp DUC PHONG received one. blements of the 275th VC and 174th NVA Regimenta, 5th VC Division, were both identified by documents captured during the month and were probably responsible for the activity in the province. During the month, there cas an increase in reports of enemy food shortages throughout the province. These reports were somewhat substantiated by the low level of enemy activity. In BIME LONG Province, enemy activity consisted of small unit contacts, the majority of which involved elements of the 7th NVA Division. The lilet NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, was identified on three separate occasions in an area 10 to 15 kilometers northeast of Camp LOC NINH, while the 209th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, remained in an area six to ten kilometers southwest of Camp BU DOP, along the BINH LONG/PHUOC LONG Province border. Elements of the 165th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, were identified during the last week of February in an area eight to ten kilometers northwest of Camp TONG LE CHON, TAY NINH Province, possibly indicating that elements of the regiment had redeployed from their former area of operations, along the BINH LONG/PHUCG LONG Province border, northeast of \_ 3 MINH. In TAY NINH Province, Camp BEN SOI experienced an increase in activity duri: the period 1 to 9 rebruary. On 1 February, the camp received a ground attack by an

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estimated enemy sapper platoon. On 7 and 9 February, CSF operations engaged an estimated energy company 10 kilometers west of the camp. Intelligence sources reported that elements of the 1st Fattalion, 272nd VC Regiment, 9th VC Division, were located north of the camp, and were probably responsible for the activity within the camp's TAOR. Elsewhere in the province, Camp KATUM received seven light attacks-by-fire, probably conducted by elements of the 9th VC Division to screen the movement of troops and supplies in and adjacent to the camp's TAOR. In HIU WHILL Province, enemy activity consisted of light attacks-by-fire directed against Free World Force installations located along infiltration routes. An intillizence source reported that Tub-region 2 was organizing a new regiment from units oper-ting in HAU NOFIA Province. The new regiment would reportedly be composed of the 257th and 269th VC and D63 NVA Battalions and would operate in the CUC HOA area. In LOWS KHANH Province, elements of the 3d MSF discovered 23 caches the majority of which were located in an area 10 to 15 kilometers northwest of PANS TANGE and contained over 170 tons of weapons, ammunition, and miscellaneous equipment. The material contained in the caches was probably intended for the use of enemy units operating in Sub-region 5, as elements of both Sub-region 5 and the 'Lat Bear Service Group were identified by documents captured in the RANG TAUD area. uring March, enemy activity ranged from a low to moderate level throughout the CTT. In TAY NINH Province, a slight increase in attacks-by-fire was noted in 'ar lone of during the month, probably in order to screen resupply operations. Inc 9th VC Division remained deployed in northern War Zone C with all of the division's maneuver elements being identified during the month. The 271st William to was identified went and wouthwest of Camp THIEN MGON on 10, 19, and 20 Mirch, while the 272nd VC Regiment was identified northeast of THIEN MGON on 16 threat. The remaining elements of the division, the 950 NVA Regiment, was identified coutheast of Samp KATUT. In HAU NGHIA Province, the most significant activity was the numerous helicopter sightings near Camp DUC HUE; during the period 7 through 31 March, a total 107 sightings were made. During the month, enemy activity in 11 in Trovince increased from the level experienced during February. The the last vision Headquarters and the lilst NVA Regiment were believed to have rewise inorth of LOC SIRM, in Base Area 350. The 209th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA was to mas identified on 6 March in an area six to eight kilometers that a first on le the 165th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, which had been located on the state remained out of contact for most of the month. In PHWOC ICES Province the 5th CO Division Headquarters and the 275th VC Regiment remained in northwestern PHOOS LONG Province. Throughout the province, there were no major companies reported; as it appeared that the enemy was content with avoiding contact in order to resupply and refit his forces. Throughout the month, there were many intelligence reports which predicted an increase in enemy activity during late March or early April. These reports were later substantiated on the night of 31 March then there were a series of attacks-by-fire directed primarily against border locations in TAY NOWH and HAU NOHIA Provinces. These attacks-by-fire later proved to be the initiation of the 1st Phase of the enemy's Spring-Summer Campaign. During the month of April, there were several significant energy relocations in

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III CT7. In TAT MINH Province, the 271st VC Regiment, 9th VC Division, redeployed from the northeastern portion of TAY NINH Province to the southern portion of the province, in an area just north of the Angel's wing. The 95C NVA Regiment, 9th VC Division. redeployed from an area eight to ten kilometers southeast of KATUM to central Base Area 354, along the western TAY NINH Province/Cambodian border. In MINH LING Province, elements of the 209th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, relocated from an area west of LOC NINH to the northeastern portion of TAY MINH Province. The 1st Battalion, 209th NVA Regiment, was identified by documents aptured approximately 15 kilometers west-northwest of TONO LE CHON on 23 April. The 165th NVA Regiment, 7th NVA Division, remained in the vicinity of the Fishhook, the Headquarters, "th NVA Division and the lulst NVA Regiment were located north of LOC MINH, in Base Area 350. In PHUOC LONG Province, the 5th VC Division Headquarters and the 275th VC Regiment remained north and southwest of BU DOP, respectively.

- (c) There were no new weapons or equipment introduced in III CTZ during the reporting period.
- (d) Throughout the month, numerous intelligence reports were received stating that the enemy would launch another highpoint of the Spring-Summer Campaign during late April or early May, in conjunction with Communist holidays on 1, 7, and 19 May. The enemy is capable of widespread, coordinated attacks-by-fire and sapper attacks against population centers and military installations and limited ground attacks against CIDG camps, RF/PF outposts, District Headquarters, and fire support bases.

#### (5) IV Corps Tactical Zone

- (a) In early February, enemy strength was estimated to be 49,550 personnel, of which 41,550 were combat troops. Enemy strength rose during the period with the addition of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sapper Battalions, 16th Armor Office, COSVN, and several other infiltration groups. However, successful friendly operations and accurate intelligence resulted in substantial enemy losses. During the period, the 267B and 269B Sapper Battalions were formed in the SONG TRANG area and had infiltrated to Base Area 470, where they reportedly became subordinate to the DTl and DT2 VC Main Force Regiments, respectively. Elements of the 88th NVA Regiment completed their successful infiltration to Base Area 470, while elements of the 95A NVA Regiment completed their reported infiltration from Cambodia to Base Area 483. By the end of April, enemy strength in IV CTZ was estimated to be 44, 575 personnel, of which 36,000 were combat troops.
- (b) During the month of February, enemy-initiated activity remained at a low to moderate level throughout the CTA, characterized by attacks-by-fire and troop movement. Intelligence sources stated that the enemy would conduct the TET Offensive during this period; however, it failed to materialize due to the

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apparent failure of the enemy to position troops into his reported target areas and the lack or sufficient food, ammunition, and medical supplies. Juring the first week of the month, intelligence sources reported that the 261A, 267B, and 269th VC hain Force Bettalions, which normally operated in the central areas of the CTZ, were located to the north in Cambodian border base areas. In addition, the Eftn NVA Regiment was reportedly operating in the Crow's Nest area with the intentions of infiltrating DIM TUCNG Frovince to participate in attacks against the MY THC City-DONG TAP area. Intelligence sources further indicated that a large enemy force had moved westward along the Cambodian border to Base Area 704. This unit was believed to have been elements of the 95A NVA Regiment, 5th VC Division. During the second week of the month, the enemy suffered substantial losses in the eastern areas of the CTZ, which were believed to have been an importent factor in the enemy's decision to postpone the predicted TET Offensive. (n & February, elements of the 2-7 and Z-& Sattalions, both NVA Regiment, were contacted approximately 14 kilometers south of Camp BINH THANH THON. This was the first confirmation of the unit's intentions to infiltrate to the central areas of the CTZ. After the contact the unit reportedly returned to the SONG TRAMS area of Carbonia to regroup and retrain its personnel. During the remainder of the month, the majority of enemy activity took place in the CHAU DOC Province area and adjecent areas of Cambodia. Major elements of the 101D NVA Regiment, 1st NVA prission, rejortedly began their infiltration to the Seven Hountains ares (Base Area 400). Intelligence sources indicated that the regiment would replace the 163 NVA Regiment, which would reportedly move south out of Base Area 400, possibly to the U-MINH Forest area. Elements of the 16th Armor Office, COSVN, were identified in contact on several occasions during the month. On February, the 4th and J'h Battalions, 16th Armor Office, were confirmed when the 4th Battalien's XO and the 5th Battalien's CO were captured near Little File captured during the contacts revealed that other elements of the NUI GIAI. 16th Armor (frice were to infiltrate IV CTZ in the near future. Enemy-initiated activity Lagresed gradually throughout Earch, culminating with the initiation of the Dirun. Compaign on 29 March. During the first half of the month, activity was highly, atom by a 2 March contact in the TRAM Forest, when ARVN and CIDG elements conducted a goint operation against the 3rd Sapper Battalion, 16th Armor Office, COSVA. This operation resulted in 216 enemy fatalities out of a reported unit strength of 250 men. During the month, elements of the 261A VC Main Force Infantry Battalion and the newly formed 267B and 269B VC Main Force Sapper Battalions were located in the northern border areas of LIEN TUONG and KIEN PHONG Provinces with the intentions of infiltrating to Base Area 470. On 6 March, elements of the 261A VC Main Force Infantry Battalion were contacted while attempting this move. Other intelligence sources also indicated large unidentified units in Bass Area 704 with intentions of moving southward into SVN. Previous intelligence sources had indicated that increased infiltration to Bese Areas 400 and 470 would occur in the future. Increased friendly operations and serial surveillance of the border areas, however, severely hampered the planned enemy movements. In mid-March, the relitical situation in Cambodia resulted in a new police toward the VC/NVA forces within Cambodian termitory. Major VC/NVA element.

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located in the Crow's Nest, SCNG TRANG, Base Area 704, and on NUI "C" were forced to either move to more secure areas or to mass large numbers of troops to avoid the offensive operations of the Cambodian Government Forces. During the last week of the month, intelligence sources began to indicate that the enemy planned to initiate his agring Campaign in the near future. On 29 March, the enemy used widespread attects-by-fire, sapper propes, and ground assaults to initiate the predicte campaign. Enemy activity remained at a high level throughout the remainder of the month. The Special Forces camp and ARVN Training Center at CHI LANG were the most heavil, engaged targets. Elements of the 1010 NVA Regiment and 16th from Office were responsible for the attacks. TRI TON District Headquarters also received several heavy attacks-by-fire. After the initial phase of the Spring Compaign, directed primarily against military targets, the trend shifted to harassment and terrorism of the c vilian populaca. Intelligence reports stated that this was part of the enemals plans to liberate a major segment of the population. Juring the first week of April, enemy activity remained at a high level. On /pril, activity decreased sharply, possibly in preparation for another series of hig points. Intelligence sources reported that the enemy planned large scale attacks against the CHI LANG area in the near future. Intelligence sources also indicated the possible movement of major units from III CTZ to IV CTZ. A PW captursu in the vicinity of the Angel's Wing, III CTZ, revealed orders to move from III CTZ to the "Plain: Region". The "Flains Region" ircbably referred to the Flain of Reeds, which encompasses the western portion of KIEW TUONG Province and the eastern portion of KIEN PHONG Province. Previous intelligence reports have stated that adultional elements of the 9th VC Division, in addition to the toth NVA Regiment, would relocate to IV CTZ. During the second week of April, interligence reports and interrogation of captured enemy soldiers revealed that the 261A "C Main Force Infantry Battalion and the 267B and 269B VC Main Force Sapper Battalions had completed their move southward out of the SONG TRANG area to Base Area 470. In addition, the 2678 and 2693 VC hain force Sapper Bettalions were reportedly subordinate to the DT1 and DT2 VC hain Force Regiments, respectively. This would have given all the enemy regiments in hilitary Region I. an organ'c capter battalion. During the second half of April, IWs, captured documents, and intelligence sources reported the movement of major elements of the both NVA Regiment from the KIEH IHUNG-FIEN TUCNG Province border areas to Base Area 470. Also during this time, major elements of the 95% NVA Regiment infiltrated south from Camboais to the northern portions of the U-MINH Forest. Developments in the Cambodian territory adjacent to SIN greatly affected the enemy's planned courses of action.

- (c) There were no new weapons or equipment introduced in IV CTZ during the reporting period.
- (d) buring late April, intelligence sources began to indicate enemy plans for the initiation of the second phase of the Spring-Summer Campaign, reportedly to be initiated on or about 1 kay 70. However, it is likely that the current Cambodian situation will effect both the initiation hate and the intensity of this second phase.

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#### c. Operations.

#### (1) I Corps Tactical Zone (Co C)

During the reporting period, Company C assets conducted a total of 104 company, 207 platoon and 138 squad size operations. A total of 179 contacts were made with the following results: Enemy-287 NVA/VC KIA, 62 CIA, 103 weapons CIA. Friendly-one USASF and 45 CIDG KIA, ten USASF, four VNSF, 129 CIDG WIA. During the reporting period RF/PF units advised by USASF conducted 84 company, 323 platoon and 31° squad operations and engaged in 53 contacts. Results: Enemy-68 NVA/C miA, nine CIA, 21 wpns CIA. Friendly-nine RF/PF KIA, five WIA. The following significant contacts occurred during the reporting period.

- (a) On 10 Feb, a company size CSF operation from TIEN PHUOC observed a VC company crossing a river, the operation engaged the enemy with artillery resulting in 30 VC KBA and one 60mm mortar destroyed.
- (b) On 16 Feb, a company size CSF operation from TIEN PHUOC engaged 60 to 80 NVA/VC with artillery resulting in nine VC KBA and four tunnel complexes destroyed.
- (c) On 19 Feb, a company size CSF operation from THIEN PHUOC ambushed a VC squad resulting in six VC, one individual weapon, and 400 kilos of rice CIA.
- (d) On 24 Feb, a company size CSF operation from TIEN PHUOC ambushed on Note obtained resulting in nine NVA KIA and five individual meapons CIA.
- (a) On 2 Mar, a company size CSF operation from MINH LONG made content with an makesun size enemy force while uncovering a cache. Results where; one CIDG KIA, two CIDG MIA, five VC KIA, one VC CIA, three individual meapons CIA, 4,000 lbs of rice, 300 lbs of salt and 200 lbs of chattery described.
- 10 On 4 Mar, a company size CSF operation from TIEN PHUOC made contact with a NVA/VC company resulting in seven VC KIA, five VC KBA and two instantages weapons CIA.
- (g) On 6 Mar, a company size CSF operation from THUONG DUC conducted a combat assault with a USMC recon team and made contact with an unknown size enemy force. Results were three VC KIA, one individual weapon CIA, two CIDG KIA, two USMC KIA, 15 CIDG and five USMC WIA, two M-los lost and one CB-46 destroyed.

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- (h) On 6 Mar, a company size CSF operation from TIEN PHUOC ambushed two NVA companies resulting in five NVA KTA, eight NVA KBA, one individual weapon CIA and one CIDG WIA.
- (i) On 12 Mar, a company size CSF operation from TIEN PHUOC assaulted an NVA base camp. Results were: 21 NVA KIA, nine NVA CIA, four individual weapons CIA and 150 kilos of rice destroyed.
- (j) On 7 Apr. a platoon size operation from MINH LONG observed a VC company crossing a river and engaged them with artillery resulting in 15 VC KBA.
- (k) On 10 Ap. Camp MAI LOC received a ground attack by a sapper company from the 66th NVA Regt. The attack lasted four hours until relieved by a troop from the 5th Mech Inf Div. The enemy force used mortars, B-40 rockets, satchel charges and small arms in the attack, destroying approximately 50% of the bunkers in the camp. Results: One USASF KIA, 22 CIDG KIA, two VNSF and 16 CIDG WIA. Enemy losses were: Fifteen NVA KIA, three AK-47s CIA, two RPG-2s, 15 B-40 rockets, 30 grenades, 20 bangalore torpedoes, 75 two kilo satchel charges, three gas masks and one Russian radio CIA.
- (1) On 16 Apr, a company size CSF operation from HA THANH, in a series of running contacts, killed 12 VC and captured four individual weapons.
- (m) On 23 Apr, a company size CSF operation from HA THANH, while searching  $\,^\circ$  VC hamlet, made contact with an unknown size enemy force from 50 to 100 meters resulting in five VC KIA, four individual weapons CIA and 15 detainees.
- (n) In the early morning of 30 Apr Camp THUONG DUC received light small arms fire, B-40 rockets and 40 rounds of 82mm mortar fire. Counter battery fire was directed with 81mm and 4.2 inch mortars. At first light a sweep was made of the perimeter resulting in five VC KIA, one VC CIA, one AK-47, one RPG-7, one mine, 17 hand grenades. 21 one 1b blocks of TNT and eight B-40/41 rockets. Four CIDG were wounded.
- (o) During the last part of Mar, two companies from the 1st MSFC and one company of NONG SON CSF troops swept the SONG THU BON River Valley and evacuated the civilian population to DUC DUC District Hqs at AN HOA. All rice and other crops in the valley were destroyed. This operation not only took a population base from the enemy but also denied them a major source of food. This valley is a highly productive agricultural area and most of the crops went to the VC. The operation took place just prior to and during the harvest time.

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#### (2) II Corps Tactical Zone. (Co B)

During the reporting period, Company B assets conducted a total of 7,950 operations which resulted in 800 enemy killed, 25 enemy captured and 157 weapons captured.

- (a) In February, the most significant incident was the recovery of two US KIA in October in the DAK PEK TAGR. One was a USAF pilot, and the other a USASF observer who were shot down by enemy.
- (b) In March, PLET ME was the center of enemy activity. An enemy unit, later identified by a POW statement as the 95B Regiment, initiated contact with a training company on 11 March. The CSF company was supported by mechanized elements from the 1th Inf Div. The CSF company disrupted enemy plans to attack PLEI ME.
- (c) In April, there were two camps attacked by indirect fire and ground attacks and one by indirect fire only. DAK SEANG was attacked on 1 April by elements of the 28th Inf Regiment and 40th NVA Artillery Regiment. The siege that the 28th Regiment initiated was carried on throughout April resulting in 475 enemy KIA. During this time the camp was supported by one company from PLATEAU GI and the 1st and 4th MSF Bns. Also operating in the area were the 22nd and 23rd ARVN Ranger Bns and the 42nd ARVN Regiment.
- (d) DAK PEK was attacked by indirect fire and by sappers on 12 April. During the first two days of the attack, three of the five main hills at DAK PEK were taken by the enemy. An assault by the 2nd MSF Recon Company regained the positions. The major portion of the NVA attack against DAK PEK lasted until 18 April. In total 228 enemy were killed in the DAK PEK offensive.
- (e) Also during the month of April, BEN HET A-244, received numerous barrages of 82mm mortar and 75mm RR.

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#### (3) III Corps Tactical Zone. ((o A)

During the reporting period Company A assets conducted a total of 243 company or larger, 1507 platoon, and 2527 squad operations. A total of 189 contacts were made with the following results: Enemy- 100 VC/NVA KIA, four enemy and 1625 weapons captured; Friendly- Two USASF, one VNSF and 66 CSF/MSF KIA, 10 USASF and 256 CSF/MSF WIA, 16 weapons lost.

- (a) KATUM A-322: At 0211,00Feb, a FAC spotted 25 VC/NVA crying out their uniforms. Artillery response from KATUM resulted in 13 VC KBA.
- (b) SONO BE B-34: At 2014;30Feb, a platoon size operation discovered a cache containing the following enemy equipment: three 82mm mortar tubes with bipods, two 82mm mortar sights, one 82mm mortar baseplate, one 60mm mortar tube, two Massin Nagent rifles, one Chicom LMD type 56, and 3,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition.
- (c) THIEN NGON A-323: At 2414507eb, a platoon size operation made contact with an estimated NVA platoon. Results: Enemy- Four VC KIA, seven VC KBA, and two AK-47 CIA; Friendly- one VNSF and four CIDG WIA.
- (d) TONG LE CHON A-334: At 241740Feb, a company size operation made contact with an estimated enemy squad. Results: Enemy-Four VC KIA, three AK-17 magazines, two lbs documents, two bags of rice CIA; Friendly-Negative.
- (e) MINE THANE A-332: On Oblightofeb, a company size operation initiated contact with an estimated VC squad. Results: Enemy- Two VC KIA, one VC CIA (Warrant Officer), two AK-47 CIA; Friendly- Negative.
- (f) KATUM A-322: At 201100Mar, a platoon size operation made cortact with 15-20 VC. Arty and airstrikes supported the contact. Results: Enemy- Six VC KIA, three VC KBA, five AK-47's and one K-54 pistol CIA; Friendly- One CSF WIA.
- (g) BEN SOI A-120: At 281955Mar, a company size operation made contact with an estimated VC platoon. Results: Three VC KIA, one AK-47 CIA.

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- (h) TRA CU A-326: At 090305Apr, a company size operation made contact with an estimated two VC companies. Enemy initiated contact with mortar and small arms fire. Results: Six CSF KIA, 13 CSF WIA.
- (i) KATUM A-322: At 140940Apr, a company size operation made contact with an estimated VC platoon. Results: Four VC KIA, one AK-47 CIA.
- (j) BEN SOI A-120: At 180910Apr, a platoon size operation made contact with unknown size enemy unit. Results One CSF KIA, four VC KIA, two AK-h7's CIA.
- (k) TONG LE CHON A-334: At 202330Apr, the camp received 40 rounds of 82mr. mortar and 107mm RR. Rounds impacted inside the compound. Results: Two USASF KIA, six USASF WIA.

## C CHFIDENTIAL

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- (4) IV Corps Tactical Zone, (Co D): During the cuarter ending 30 April 1970, Company D conflucted 365 company, 3201 small unit and 429 CRP operations. The results of these operations were: FRD six USASF KIA, 44 USASF WIA, nine VMSF KIA, seven VMSF WIA, 85 CIDS WIA, 365 CIDS WIA, three CIDS MIA, 44 weapons lost; En 395 VC KIA, 20 VC CIA, 24 detainess, two HOI CHANS and 371 weapons captured.
- (a) A-1:13, PINH THANH THON: At 061515 Feb, a VR A/C sighted 30 VC digging in. VC fired on A/C and gunships returned fire. At 061735 troops were inserted and engaged the enemy. At 061850 the troops were extracted. Results: FPD One CSF KIA; EN 28 VC KBA.
- (b) A-113, PINH THANH THOM: At 071300 Feb, an airmobile operation initiated contact w/est VC company from 200 meters. A-102 troops were inserted at 071705 to flank contact area to the East. Tac Air was called in prior to insertion. At 071910 all troops were extracted, and Tac Air was again called in. At 080130 two companies of the 2d In, 1th NST were inserted. One company from A-113 and one company from A-115 and the list Ranger Bn were inserted approximately 081100 and two 105 Howitzers were moved to PHNOC XUYEN for support. At 092325, the 11th Tanger Bn initiated contact w/est 100 VC, gunships and Ad-119 supported. At 100110 the 11th Ranger Bn reported reported six VC VBA in the area of contact. At 100115 the 11th Ranger Bn reported one VC CTA. Results: TWD two WMST, Seven 187, four CST KTA, one USAST, 12 MST, 12 CST WTA. Equipment losses: 11 M-16 rifles, one CAT-15, one M-60 MM, two .15 Cal pistols, one PC-25 radio. TM 39 VC FTA, 82 VC KBA, two VC CTA, 25 AK-171s, four PFD LM's, three P-40 TL's, one R-41 RL, one AK-58, one 11-16, 19 hand grenades, one 60mm mortar w/sight, 11 P-40 and P-41 rockets, 37 gas masks, 16 60mm rounds, four 62mm rds, one 107mm rocket, two bangalore torpedoes, ten rucksacks, one pair wire cutters, 15 lbs plastic explosive, ten blasting caps, 200 lbs of assorted clothing, equipment, medical supplies and locuments cptr.
- (c) R-41, MOC HOA: At 111000 Feb, one LOH received ground fire and crashed. At 111020 another LOH received two .51 Cal hits in tail section. CAC pilot reported that the LOH which crashed was in fire and an explosion was observed. There were no survivors. At 111425 hours, Tac Air put in three air strikes. At 111515 hours one company from A-431 was inserted to set up ambushes. Results: FPD two UC KIA 'LOH pilots', one LOH destroyed.
- (d) A-421, RA KOAI: At 11:0415 Feb, an estimated one MVA company initiated an indirect fire attack with 30 rounds of 82mm mortar, and a ground attack against one CSF company at the FOB. Results: FWD eight CSF KVA, ten CSF MVA, EN three VC/NVA KVA, one R-40 RL, one pair wire cutters CVA.

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- (e) A-403, CHI LANG: At 150300 Feb 70, one MSF squad initiated contact with two MVA squads from 50 meters with claymores. After a 90 minute fire fight, the MVA broke contact and withdrew. Results: FRD Negative, EN eight NVA KTA, one AK-50, three rucksacks with C-4, one rucksack with grenades optr. Army Helicopter Sunships and 155 Howitzer's were used in support.
- (f) A-432, THEONY THOI: At 171317 Feb 70, one CSF company was inserted on an airmobile operation. An unknown size enemy force initiated contact with the CSF from 200 meters. After a sporadic fire fight the enemy broke contact and withdrew. Results: FPD one UH-1D helicopter shot down and one UH-1D downed with mechanical failure. (Both craws were safely extracted). EN ten NVA MMA, three MVA MBA, two NVA nurses, one radio (AN/APD-9), one case of batteries, one R-40 RL, two 9mm pistols, one NWA SOI, a maintenance kit for 107mm rocket, two VCI documents, and one AK-47 optr.
- (g) P-43, CHI LAND: At 021510 Mar 70, an Air Cavalry element observed trails leading to a clearing and observed an estimated company size enemy unit resting. Air Cavalry elements put in air strikes and received fire. One company from A-419, two companies of MSF, one MSF CRP, one CRP from A-432, one CRP from A-412 were inserted. After two hours, the VC broke contact and withdraw. Results: FTD = One A/C down, one A/C hit in the tail boom; EN = 37 VC KBA, three VC KIA. FND elements continued the contact the following day with an estimated 300 VC/NVA. Pesults: TPD = one USASF VIA, one VS helicopter crew chief VIA, two LOH's downed by ground fire, one OE=1 down due to engine failure; EN = 11 VC KIA, 30 VC KBA, six VC CIA, 18 AK-47, two Chicom type 57 MB's, two PB barrels, 2 NO Tripods, 3 flashlights, 12 AK magazines, 3 ponchos, 1 carrying case for VB, 1 scissors, assorted medical supplies and documents CIA.
- (h) B-LO Forward, VIMH GIA: At 040800 Mar 70, contact was established with energy elements and was continued with slight breaks until 1800 hours.

  Results: FIT One USASE KIA, one OST KIA, three CSE WIA, one M-16 lost; EN -eight VO/NIA KIA, 15 VO/NIA KIA, eight AK-47's, two AK-50's, two B-40 RL's, one .50 cel MG, one 7.62 MG, one 12.7 MG, one K-54 pistol, 20 rds B-40 rockets TA.
- (i) B-41, MOC HOA: At O51936 Mar 70, B-41 reported that army helicopter gunships spotted two companies of VC in the open and initiated contact. After a 15 minute fire fight, the gunships broke contact and withdrew to refusl.

  Results: FRD Megative; EN 35 VC KBA.
- (j) A-413, BIRH THANH TYON: At 060030 Mar 70, one CSF company initiated contact with estimated two companies of VC. At 060125 radio contact was lost with the CSF. At 060345 additional command element was inserted, established contact and assumed command of the CSF company and reestablished radio communications. At 060500 additional troops were inserted to search the area.

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Results: WTD - two USASE KIA, one UNSE HIA, one GSE KIA, one interpreter, one GSE ITA, one PRC 77 and four N=16, one CAR 15 Lost; EN - 36 WG KRA.

- (k) A-h02, CHI IAMA: At 260035 Mar 70, a friently element initiated contact with one platoon of WM from 100 meters. After a 2% hour fire light, the MWA broke contact and withdrew. Results: FWD seven MSF WIA; FW five NWA KIA, three NWA KWA, 57 chicom granades, one AW-50, two AK-h7's, one N-h0 NL, eight N-h0 rockets, one M-79, three LAW's, 200 fuses, ten lbs TNT, two Chicom granades, four shovels, 150 psychological leaflets, assorted medical equipment, unknown number of documents and assorted clothing and uniforms CIA.
- (1) 3-43, CHI LANG: At 290130 Mar 70, an estimated company of VC initiated a sapper attack on 3-43 compound from three directions. The ground probe it 3-43 entered the compound between bunkers 8 and 9. Contacted lasted for approximately four hours. Desults: FRD One GLDS KIA, 13 USASE, one US, one USST, five CSE UTA; EN 24 US KIA, one UC CTA, Sive AU-678, and numerous granades and 2-40 rockets CIA. A platoon size friendly element from TO CHAU, performing security at CHI LANG, were returning to CHI LANG from an ambush position, observed three US and initiated contact; Results: [PD] Tecative, TH three US KIA.
- (m) A-121, BA XOAI: At 290230 Har 70, Camp BA XOAI came under a ground attack when approximately 30 VC/NVA probed along the pageda side. Enemy were trapped inside the compound and by daylight a sweep conducted by A-121 elements eliminated the enemy. Results: FED two CSE KTA, Four CSE WIA, One PREF WIA; EN 22 VC/NVA KIA, three VC/NVA CIA, three B-10 RL's, seven AV-17's numerous grenades, web gear and clothing CIA.
- (n) A-102, CVT LANG: At 301127 Har 70, two companies of IST initiated contact with an estimated VC/NVA company from 100 meters. After a five hour fire fight the VC broke contact and withdrew. Results: FVD one IST KIA, three VSASF and five MSF VIA; TW 22 VC KTA, nine VC KBA, four VC CIA, one 60mm morter complete, seven AK-17's, two PPD's, one SKS, 500 booky traps, five B-11 rockets and one 15 kilo mine CIA.
- (o) B-43, CHI LANG: At O91430 Mar 70, B-43 initiated contact with one MVA company from 50 meters, with the contact lasting 20 minutes. The friendly element received indirect fire for two hours, then another fire fight was initiated which lasted for an hour. Results: FPD two USASE WIA, three CIDS KIA, six CIDS WIA; EN 13 WS KIA, one 60mm mortar, one RPD, one B-40 RL, one SKS, two AK-47's CIA.

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The local torward, CHI LAMP: it 300030 Mar 70, A-103 received ten P-10 received ten

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#### d. Plans and Organization.

- (1) CIDG Camp Conversion: The following conversion activities took place during the reporting period.
- (a) Three CIDG camps converted to RF on 31 Mar 70. An Lac, II CTZ converted 418 CIDG of 482 assigned. My Dien II in IV CTZ converted 244 CIDG of 266 assigned. Lastly, My Phuce Tay, IV CTZ converted 495 out of 533 assigned. A total of 1,157 CIDG converted from the above named camps.
- (b) Two CIDG camps in III CTZ converted to RF on 30 Apr. Bunard converted 270 CIDG out of 299 assigned and Minh Thanh converted 362 of 422 assigned CIDG.
- (c) Remaining CIDG camps scheduled to convert as part of Phasedown in FY 70 are Plateau Gi and Nhon Co in II CTZ and Due Phong in III CTZ all of which will convert on 31 May 70.
- (d) On 1 March elements of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Mobile Strike Force Commands entered the conversion cycle. MSF conversion plans call for the formation of the following RF companies and Group HQ's: II CTZ = 7 RF companies, 3 Gp HQ's = 918 RF spaces; III CTZ = 7 RF companies, 2 Gp HQ's, 899 RF spaces; IV CTZ = 4 RF companies, 1 Gp HQ's, 511 RF spaces.
- (2) MTOE: A modified TOE Concept Plan was submitted to COMUSMACV: ATTN: J3-033, 16 Dec 69 to reorganize 5th SFGA in accordance with the draft revision of TOE 31G (Army 75). Presently this HC's is awaiting DA approval/disapproval for the proposed TOE which is expected some time after July 70.
- (3) <u>USASF Space Reductions</u>: In support of Phase III Redeployment (Keystone Blue Jay), 5th SFGA reduced its authorized and assigned personnel strength to 3,080 USASF. Concurrently, with this 400 man drawdown, Detachment B-57 assets were reassigned to the 525th MI Group thereby reducing this HQ's authorized strength to 3,040 USASF.
- (4) <u>Table of Allowance</u>: During the reporting period C Detachment Commanders submitted modifications requests to TA 1-70 based on the special requirements for camp equipment and supplies of each CDDG location. These modifications were in part approved by this RQ's thereby establishing authorization for stockage of camp supplies and equipment.

#### (5) CIDG Force Developments:

- (a) SFOB Security Company The TOE for the 93 man SFOB Security Company received final approval and was bilingually published.
- (b) POLWAR Reorganization: The countrywide 608 POLWAR spaces were reorganized into the following configuration. Each A, B and C Detachment is authorized an eleven (11) man POLWAR team. Also included in this reorganization is a twenty man CIDG Culture Drama Team, a ten man CIDG Motivation

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and Indoctrination Team and a six man CIDG Editorial Staff all assigned to the VNSF/HC. Bilingual TOE's published 23 Apr 70 are in the process of being disseminated to the field. It should be noted that this reorganization causes the standard authorized strength of a CIDG "A" camp to be reduced from 530 to 525 CIDG.

- (6) <u>CIDG Strength Authorization</u>: Based upon C Detachment Commanders request to modify CIDG strength authorizations to meet specific operational requirements of CIDG camps, a directive was prepared incorporating field input. Formerly this directive was entitled "CIDG Strength Reduction." Presently it has been concurred in by VNSF/HC and is awaiting the CO's approval.
- (7) Relocation of Bu Prang: Construction of New Bu Prang began on 28 Jan 70 and continued throughout the reporting period. Location of the new camp is TU680495 or about 17 KM's to the southeast of the original camp. By close of April, fourty four (44) percent of the personnel and quipment had been relocated to the new site.
  - (8) I CTZ (Company C) Current Plans/Concepts:
- (a) Effective 2 March 1970 the majority of the CIDG TAORs in the I CTZ were expanded to place more of the populated and agricultural areas under control of the GVN.
- (b) As it has been a common practice in the past for the NVA/VC units to use established military and political boundaries for infiltration and staging areas. A concentrated effort has been made to conduct offensive operations in these newly aquired areas, as well as extending operations past previously established torders. Maximum use of helicopter assets available has been used to insert COF and NOF troops into these areas.
- (c) FWMAF units in the I CTZ have willingly granted AO extensions to the CLOG for these border operations, especially the areas to the west of the camp TAORs, which are rermally part of the Reconnaissance more.
- (d) The Americal Division, whose operational area encompasses the 5 southern camps in I CTZ has expressed concern over the expanded TAORs. The Division apparently feels the expanded CIDG TAORs have restricted their control of key terrain and maneuver area along the western edges of their TAOR. The Americal Division has requested XXIV Corps to have the CIDG TAOR eastern boundaries returned to their original configuration. Company C is presently completing its receive to this request, and is basically requesting further expansion of the CIDG TAORs.
- (e) Misecllaneous: During the reporting period coordination was made with LXIV Corps Artillery and I Corps Artillery to establish further training programs for the CIDG Artillery program. It has been recommended that future training also include VNSF as well as CIDG. ARVN CORPS Artillery has Training teams that travel to ARVN Artillery battalions and batteries in the CTZ to conduct evaluations of the batteries and to conduct training. Coordination is presently being effected to have one of these teams go to Thuong Duc (A-109) to conduct joint training for the CIDG, VMSF, and USASF. It is planned to have each camp in the CTZ send two CIDG, one

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VNSF and one USASF to attend the training. Since the training will be given by the ARVN, an interperter will only be needed for the USASF, who already have a basic knowledge of Artillery procedures and it is felt the VNSF and CIDG will be more receptive to instruction being presented by the ARVN.

#### (9) II CTZ (Company B) Current Plans/Concents:

- (a) Two camps are processing for conversion to RF: Camps Nhon Co and Plateau G1, which convert on 31 May 70.
- (b) The 2d Mobile Strike Force Command has the 2d Bn, 3d Bn and HQs and Service Company standing down for processing and conversion to RF, to be completed 30 June.
- (c) The 1st MSF Recon Company was disbanded during the reporting period and personnel intergrated into the 1st  $B_{\rm IR}$ .
- (d) There were no major problem areas during the conversion of Camp An Lac on 31 Mar 70.

#### (10) III CTZ (Company A) Current Plans/Concepts:

- (a) Since the last reporting period, emphasis has been placed on conducting platon sized operations, with company on standby for reinforcement in the III CTZ. Platon size operations are able to cover a larger area and this has been an effective countermeasure to the increased enemy infiltration. Past efforts to increase the intelligence gathering capabilities of CIDG forces has begun to be productive and the immediate reaction to this intelligence has been beneficial. This will continue to be a point of particular emphasis. During this reporting period the USASF has turned over the responsibility of requesting and directing all air support in III CTZ to the VNSF. This is taking page at all levels and requests for Preplanned Airstrikes, Immediate Airstrikes and assault helicopter companies are strictly a VNSF function with the USASF acting in an advisory capacity.
- (b) As in the past, this HQ's continues planning and directing, as necessary, combat operations of subordinate B detachments in support of Corps objectives. B detachments in coordination with their VN counterparts, continue to assist the A detachment in conducting offensive operations. In recent months this has been to a limited extent as the A detachment continues to accept more of the responsibilities for planning and conducting offensive operations. Of particular note is the role that the VN commanders are playing in the conversion of A teams to RF/PF. Almost all the problems of conversion are handled at A detachment level and only logistical support is required of the higher detachments.
- (c) Long Range Plans/Concepts. This headquarters has followed and will continue to follow the assigned missions outlined in the Combined Campaign Plan 1970. At this time we are planning more platoon size operations composed of only VNSF and CIDG, in order to prepare them for the turnover of responsibility and equipment.
  - (11) IV CTZ (Company D) Current Plans/Concepts: During the reporting period

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the phasedown program progressed at a satisfactory rate. Four interior camps have been converted, they are Camps My Da, Kinh Quan II, My Phuoc Tay and My Dien II. Under the current plan we are in the process of converting A-403 and A-401 (IV Corps MSF) to RF. The disposition of Camp Don Phuc is still unknown, while the Can The facility (Camp Roger L. Brown, Detachment B-40 compound) will be utilized by the 42nd Ranger Battalion. Problem areas encountered were a lack of suitable motivation and indectrination program and a failure by Kien Phong Province to properly process and document the MSF and their dependents. Province has primary responsibility for processing these records and problems will arise if it is not completed in a timely manner. The MSF soldier converting to RF has many doubts about his future. If adequate indectrination and processing is not provided these MSF soldiers will probably leave the program in greater numbers than is acceptable.

- (12) Project Delta Current Plans/Concepts: The Bomb Damage Assessment Platoon was re-evaluated and reorganized to become a Strike Recondo Platoon. The Sist Airborne Ranger Battalion will continue to perfect the employment of platoon size, one day point reconnaissance type missions began during Operation SABRE & SPURS. An enthusiastic Vietnamization program for FROJECT DELTA continues at this time.
  - (13) Detachment B55, 5th Mobile Strike Force Command Current Plans/Concepts:
- (a) A vigorous recruising program was undertaken to offset losses sustained during the past month. The result was 169 recruits, many with prior experience. At present a training program is being established which will utilize the indigenous capabilities of 5th MSFC to effect proper training of new personnel. MSF operations will continue, and upon completion of training the new personnel will be integrated into existing understrength units.
- (b) VNSF Force Structure: Det B=22, VNSF, continues under current TOE. Approval has been given by CG, VNSF, to increase personnel strength of B=22 to that authorized by their TOE. The present strength level severely hampers the VNSF capability to parallel the activities of their Det B=55 counterparts.

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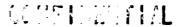
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#### e. Training:

- (1) Combat orientation Course:
- (a) The program of instruction for the COC was slightly modified to meet the replacement training requirements by USARV and the needs of the unit. Added to the programs of instruction was training in countersapper techniques, additional land navigation, and M-2 carbine training. As a result of the recent phasedown and low number of incoming replacement personnel, the COC was granted two weeks for maintenance and refitting of training areas and facilities. During the reporting period the COC trained 235 US personnel assigned to 5th SFGA.
- (b) The following is a breakdown of students for classes 30-70 through 39-70:

COC CLASSIS	DATE	COMP
30-70	Ol Feb to OL Fev 70	45
3170	Ob Feb to 15 Feb 70	60
32-70	15 Feb to 22 Feb 70	<b>3</b> 8
33-70	22 Feb to Ol Mar 70	114
34-70	Ol Mar to Od Mar 70	18
35-70	00 Mar to 15 mar 70	13
36-70	15 har to 22 Har 70	10
37-70	05 to 12 Apr 70	23
<b>3</b> 0-70	12 Apr to 19 Apr 70	21
<b>39-</b> 70	19 Apr to 26 <b>Apr</b> 70	55

- (2) MACV Records Lchool:
- (a) The mission of the MACV Recondo School is to train selected personnel from US/FAMAF units in specialized techniques and skills necessary to conduct successful long range reconnaissance operations in Vietnam.
  - (b) During the reporting period the HACV Records School trained 205



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students from US/FWMAF units. During the reporting period, classes R-10-70 through R-13-70 have graduated. The following is a breakdown of students by unit:

UNIT	ENTR	DROPPED	GRADUATED	CERT OF ATTENDANCE
lst Mar Div	17	2	15	0
101st Abn Div	32	13	19	0
Amer Div	12	3	9	0
173d Abn Bde	30	10	20	0
4th Inf Div	יות	0	14	0
75th Ranger	9	2	7	0
lst lnf Div	5	3	2	o
lst Cav Div	31	114	17	0
5th Inf Div (Mach)	10	5	5	0
9th Inf Div	8	7	1	0
25th Inf Div	18	9	9	0
15lst Inf (Rngr)	9	5	4	0
199th LIB	10	5	5	0
HHT 2/1 Cav	?	6	1	o
7th USAF	7	1	6	O
5th SFGA	1	0	1	0
lst Avn Bde	2	0	2	0
10th Avn Bde	5	1	4	0
ROK	25	2	23	0
RTAVF	20	0	20	0
ARVN	17	4	n	2

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#### (3) Company A:

- (a) The III CTZ CIDG Training Center at Det A-301 Trang Sup, continues to provide basic and refresher infantry training and basic artillery training on a Corps wide basis to all CIDG personnel. Most of the CIDG personnel receiving the infantry training have had previous training of varying degrees and for this reason a great deal of the more elementary training has been deleted from the training schedule. As a result more time and emphasis is being placed on squad and platoon tactics and crew served weapons familiarization. The third and last CIDG artillery class will graduate on 5 May. CIDG artillery totalling M. howitzers will then be located in the seven border camps in III CTZ. Plans are being made at this time to send the heavy weapons specialist from each of these seven camps to the IFFV Artillery one week familiarization course on the 105 mm howitzer. This training will enable the camps to better utilize and maintain the howitzers.
- (b) During the reporting period, the following recruits received training at the Training Center:

TRAINING CO	GRADUATION DATE	STRENOTH	GAINING UNIT
# 90th Co	3 February	25	LOC NINH
w 91st Co	3 February	<b>3</b> 0	TRA CU
92nd Co	3 February	200	THIEN NOON
			KA <b>T</b> UM
			DUC HUE
			TRANG SUP
% 93rd Co	5 H <b>ay</b>	20	DUC HUE
* 94th Co	5 . <b>iay</b>	22	TOC MINH
* 95th Co	5 May	25	RU DÚP

#### (\*) Artillery.

(c) The CIDG hospital at Bien Hoa continues to give medical training. At this time twenty one CIDG medics have received basic company medic training and 26 civilians are receiving murse training. Both courses are twelve week in duration. A six week preventive medicine course was also given at Trang Sup. The 21 students graduated on 3 April.

#### (4) Company B:

(a) A training program consisting mainly of marksmanship was conducted by all detachments. This was an effort to upgrade the quality of the individual soldier being deployed on operations.

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- (b) A Mobile Training Team consisting of artillery personnal visited camps in the 3-23 area, providing instruction to US and CSF personnel. The CSF were quick to respond to this instruction and the proficiency of the heavy weapons sections improved.
- (c) Company B Training Center has conducted refresher training for three companies from Camps Plei Me, Folei Weng, and Tieu Atar. Dependent on the tactical situation, additional companies will be trained during the next reporting period.
  - (5) Company C:
- (a) During the reporting period So C has continued to conduct basic combat training for CIEC at the I CTZ Training Senter at Ba To. Subsequent training at 3a To will be limited to refresher training for CIEC company size units. The first course is scheduled to begin on 7 May with a company from A-107. The following is a breckedwn of CIEC recruits trained at Ba To:

A-101	59
<b>A-</b> 102	65
A-103	13
A-104	05
A-105	34.
A-106	25
A-107	21,
A-108	9
Total	29,1

- (b) The Co C 2nd achelon Maintenance Course conductor at Ja Mang graduated six CIDS on 14 March. Another class is currently in the press with 41 students and is expected to graduate 13 June.
- (6) Company D: Training at Co D includes a generator operator and maintenance course and airboat training. CTEG assigned to the Airboat Company are currently undergoing an extensive training program in preparation for combat operations. The main objective is to include the VNSF in the training program. The airboat training includes capabilities, tactics, driving, communications and maintenance.
  - (7) Detachment B-51:
  - (a) Again this quarter, emphasis was placed on the quality of instruction

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being presented at the Vietnamese Special Forces Training Center. The policy of assigning various officers and non-commissioned officers to monitor certain periods of instruction has continued. Additionally, one non-commissioned officer has been assigned each day to the Combat Reconnaissance Platoon, CIDG Readership, and CIDG Basic Aidman Courses, and monitors that entire day of training. At the end of each week, a weekly monitor report is prepared for the Commander of the VNSF Training Center; S-3, 5th Special Forces Group; G-3, Vietnamese Special Forces High Command; and CO, Detachment B-51.

- (b) Work has continued on the upgrading and improvement of the compass course and demolition rarge. During the reporting period an obstacle course was completed.
- (c) USASF personnel are currently revising and updating programs of instruction for the VRSF and CIDS courses presented at the training center.
- (d) During the reporting period the CTDG Basic Aidman Course was established. The course was designed to train `TDG medics in the medical skills and techniques which they will utilize during combat operations.
- (e) The following is a list of courses graduated or in progress during the reporting period:

#### COURSES GRADUATED

COURSES	GRAD DATE	STUDENTS
1st C1DG Combat Interpreter	17 Feb 70	15
3rd VNSF Medical Specialist (Basic Aidman)	25 Feb 70	39
6th Tae Kwon Do	11 Apr 70	25
15th wobile Strike Force Refresher	11 Mar 70	310
16th CIDG Basic Airborne	11 Apr 70	172
12th VNSF Basic Airborne	14 Har 70	128
20th USASF Basic wirborne	11 Mar 70	3
42nd Combat Reconnaissance Platoon	3 Apr 70	149
L3rd CIDG Leadership	10 Apr 70	107

#### COURSES IN PROGRESS

COURSES	STARTING DATE	STUDENTS
let CIDO Basic Aidman	2 Mar 70	43

COURSES	STARTING DATE	STUDENTS
2md CIDG Combat Interpreser	30 Har 70	25
7th Tas Kwon Do	6 Apr 70	32
7th VNSF Radio Operators	24 Nov 70	70
13th VNSF Basic Airborne	20 <b>Apr 7</b> 0	116
18th VNSF Officer and NCO Basic	2 Mar 70	132
43rd Combat deconnaissance Platoon	23 Apr 70	136
LLth CIDG Leadership	23 Apr 70	94

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#### . Combat Developments:

- (1) Acoustic Azimuth Locator: Acoustic Azimuth Locator is an enemy mortar locator device, deployed to Ba Yoai. The system is made up of five locators and one Telemetry Display Module. Each locator consists of a four-microphone array, an azimuth processor box, a battery rack and interconnecting cables. Army Concept Team, Vietnam (ACTIV) is providing 6 surport personnel trained in sound ranging techniques for the evaluation period. During the first 9 day period the locator picked up 20,000 readouts. This problem is caused by the microphones ricking up friendly mortar and artillery sounds. During this same period out of nine enemy mortar attacks readout azimuths were given for five. Evaluation of this item continues.
- (2) Snot Point Sight: 5th Group has begun evaluation on the Snot Point Sight. With the Snot Point Sight, the meanon is brought to the shoulder, with one eye behind the sight, but with both eyes open, the firer looks at the target. The view of the right eye is a snot at infinity and the immediate area surrounding the target. Where as the view of the left eye not obscured by the sight can see the target, so when both eyes are used these two visions marge into a single picture. From within the sight a bright dot appears. The firer need only superimpose this dot on the target and fire.
- (3) Patrol Seismic Intrusion Detector (PSID): 5th Group has received its first issue of PSIDIs, on the 10th of March. SEC Duncan, MACW J3=04 (Duffelhag) instructed representatives from S3, R52, R55 and COC in the employment of the SID. Basis of issue was 12 to B52, 9 to R55 and 2 to COC to be used for instructional purposes. Additional PSID sets should arrive during the rext quarter and be issued to the companies.

# COSE IDENTIAL

AVGR-C

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

#### g. Aviation:

(1) Army Aviation Support: Army aircraft for command support continues to be in short supply at the C-Detachment and B-Detachment level. C Company at DANANG receives two UH-1's to support two B-Detachments and nine A-Detachments. P Company at PLEIKU receives two UH-1's daily to support fourteen A-Detachments and two B-Detachments. A Company at BIEN HOA receives two UH-1's to support ten A-Detachments and three B-Detachments. D Company at CAN THO receives two UH-1's to support eight A-Detachments and two B-Detachments. Dedicated helicopter support is in extremely short supply. Additional helicopter support on a mission basis is extremely difficult to obtain in all CT2's. Support for the 5th CFDA commander and staff when visiting I, III and IV Corps is taken from the C-Detachment's dedicated resources and is very disruptive to their utilization schedules.

#### (2) Tactical Airlift Support.

- (a) The airlift support provided to 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) units has remained highly satisfactory during this period. The C-7A dedicated resources remain a major asset to the logistical requirements of Special Forces units. The number of dedicated C-7A aircraft for 5th SPGA will be reduced by one aircraft during May. This is in keeping with the reduced number of A-Detachments and C-7A assets available to the US Air Porce. Further reductions of dedicated C-7A aircraft in the future are to be expected.
- (b) The working arrangement of C-123 aircraft being routed through SFOB enroute to A Company locations with fresh food supplies has been satisfactory. This occurs 5 days each week and is adequate for the required lift.
- (c) 5th SFGA detachments have experienced some turbulence in requesting transportation for their unit deployments and redeployments. This was caused, in great part, by a change which brought the Vietnamese High Command staff into the airlift request channel for the first time. By continual monitoring and guidance the problems have been reduced in both frequency and magnitude. Much emphasis has been placed on the proper methods and channels to submit airlift requests, both normal and emergency.
- (3) Tactical Air Support. The USAF has attached forward air controllers assigned to Special Forces down to Special Forces C-Detechment (CTZ) level, and sector FAC's operating out of their associated provinces, providing FAC capability down to R-Detachment level.

  FAC's support has greatly improved in the following areas: VR's of operations areas, familiarization by both CTDG elements and FAC's with each other's operational techniques, and routine FAC assistance in such areas as air cover, recommaissance, radio relay and navigational guidance for long range offensive operations.

  Immediate TAC AIR support for CTDG elements in contact has been generally outstanding, effective and highly responsive to tactical requirements. Preplanned airstrikes and combat skyspots have been flown about 49% of the time, with wide variations existing among the Corps Tactical Zone.

# CUMFIGERTIAL

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

#### (4) I Corps Tactical Zone (Co C)

- (a) Army Aviation Support: The major problem encountered was an insufficient number of aircraft to satisfy the support requirements of subordinate detachments. The need for numerous CtC missions resulted in the usual voluminous backlog of personnel and material to be moved. Utilization for resupply aircraft scheduled by Sh Air on a space available basis enabled the S3 Air to satisfy the basic requirements, but, on numerous occasions, special requirements (ie, CtC for Combat Assault Operations) could not be met. It is strongly recommended that an additional UH-1H, or at the least an OH-6 or OH-58, be made available to this headquarters on a dedicated basis.
- (b) Tactical Airlift Support: Pequests for movement of large numbers of troops were submitted through I Corps G3 Air for fixed wing assets (C-123, C-130) and through X'IV Corps Aviation for heavy helicopters (CH-53, CH-47). Heavy lift helicopters were depended upon to a larger extent than in the past reporting period due to closing of various airstrips for repair/improvement. During the reporting period 1327 personnel were moved by fixed-wing aircraft to include C-7A, and 4444 were moved by heavy helicopters. Requests for UH-1D lift ships and gunships for combat assault operations were requested initially through ARVN channels to I Corps, and were requested again through US channels to XYIV Corps when VMAF assets were not available. Tigures for the entire reporting period are not available; however, during the month of April, five (5) combat assault operations, involving approximately 830 personnel, were conducted.
- (c) Tactical Fighter Support: As in the last quarter, all requests for tactical fighter support were submitted initially to VNAF through I Corps G3 Air. Approximately 20% of all airstrikes were flown by VMSF. Mine (9) new AN/PPN-18 Reacon transponder units were issued to C Company on 26 April and will provide all A-Detachments with a Reacon bombing capability. In addition, four of them will replace the obsolete SST-122/KU models at A-104, 105, 106 and 109.

#### (5) II Corps Tactical Zone (Co B)

- (a) Army Aviation Support: Army aviation assets proved extremely adequate for the camps under siege in the B-24 area. However, with first priority going to the besieged camps other operations and units with lighter enemy contacts often lacked support.
- (b) Tactical Mirlift Support: Tactical similift support was excellent with all missions being flown as scheduled. Over 700 000 pounds of cargo were air dropped to Camps DAK STANG and DAK PEK, with DAK STANG receiving their drops at night.
- (c) Tactical Fighter Support: Tactical fighter support was outstanding. Camp DAK SELUG had immediate air strike capability during the reporting period with as many as 120 air strikes being used in one day.

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SUPJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

- (6) III Corps Tactical Zone (Co A)
- (a) Army Aviation Support: During this reporting period the control of all ARVN and MDB helicopter assets to include dedicated aircraft and air assault companies was given to III Corps Headquarters. Since this has happened, this headquarters has had no success whatsoever in requesting additional aircraft on a day to day basis. As an example, III Corps Headquarters could make no additional helicopters available for BG Phu or COL Healy during their latest staff visit. As a result, this headquarters is forced to utilize its own C&C and on occasion, a C&C helicopter from the 3d MSFC to escort visitors throughout III Corps. It is rare however that the missions of visitors coincide with the priorities of Company A.
- (b) Tactical Airlift Support: This headquarters receives two C-7A aircraft on daily basis and one C-123 aircraft five days a week. These aircraft are supplied to Company A from the 834th Air Division through IIFSV.
- (c) Tactical Fighter Support: With the exception of PROJECT DELTA which receive IN fighter support while working in TII CTZ, all Special Forces camps and operations to include the 3d MSFC, received VMAF air support. Of 303 missions requested during the reporting period, a total of 26l were flown against preplanned tarrets. Of these totals however, 17h out of 179 requested were flown during the first month of the reporting period. Since the first of March, preplan requests have decreased appreciably. This can be attributed to the standdown of the 3d MSFC and decrease in enemy activity in III Corps during the month of March. VNAF tactical air support continues for the most part to remain outstanding.
  - (7) T. Corps Tactical Zone (Go B)
- (a) Army Aviation Support: Army aviation has improved but is still inadequate to support the assigned mission.
- (t' Tactical Airlift Supports C7A airlift support is provided seven days a week by the 535th tactical airlift squadron at TUNG TAU. The performance of the crevs of mission IRIS 456 is exemplary.
  - (c) Tactical Sighter Support: NA
  - (8) II Corps Tactical Zone (B-52/PROJECT DELTA).
- (a) Arry Aviation Support: Army aviation support during the reporting period was provided by the 120th Assault Helicopter Company for Operations 1-70 and 2-70. Six WHIH and four WHIB helicopters were allocated to support PROJECT DELTA.
- (b) Tactical Airlift Support: Tactical airlift operation for the period were routine with no major problems.
  - (c) Tactical Fighter Support: Tactical fighter support for the period was

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

satisfactory with respect to elapsed time and ordnance delivery. AC-119K (Stinger and Shadow) were again used for further air support. These radar equipped aircraft have side-firing Mini-guns and 20mm Gattling guns, for close support.

- (9) II Corps Tactical Zone (B-55).
- (a) Army Aviation Support: Army aviation support during this reporting period has generally been very good. Aviation units apparently provide as much as possible within the limits of aircraft availability. Support from Navy gunships at Operation SEAFLOAT in IV CTZ was termed excellent in timeliness and accuracy by troops on the ground. Support from Army Cobras during operation INTREPID in IV CTZ was deemed best overall air support; especially in terms of accuracy. A problem was noted with the IV CTZ "Cav-Pack" concept wherein a number of aircraft must be employed as a unit rather than in types and numbers needed for particular missions.
- (b) Tactical Airlift Support: Due to the nature of its mission, 5th MSFC makes constant use of Air Force aircraft for major movements of men and material. Overall support has been excellent and air movements have run smoothly. This is partly attributed to the cooperation, personal interest, and efforts of the 5th SFGA TALO.
- (c) Tactical Fighter Support: Navy "Black Pony" aircraft were utilized extensively for Operation SEAFLOAT in IV CTZ. This support was described as being excellent with rapid response and good accuracy. Air Force TAC Air was not often called upon because other air assets were more readily available and support from the other assets was unusually adequate. Then heavy resistance was met on NUI KHET (Operation INTREPID) in IV CTZ, numerous missions were requested; however, only two strikes were actually received. Though they were helpful they were considered inadequate under the circumstances. It was felt that total friendly casualties could have been significantly reduced had additional air strikes been received.

AVQB-C

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFCR-65 (R2)

- h. Logistics
- (1) Supply
- (a) The average number of personnel supported during the period 1 February to 30 April 1970 was:

USASF - 2,527 CSF - 22,535 MSF - 7,524

- (b) During April the LSC Supply and Maintenance facilities provided increased support to Company B for combat actions at Dak Seang and Dak Pek. This included assorted medical supplies, various caliber arms and ammunition; protective masks, radios, generators, plastic water cans, fatigues, boots, armored vests, large quantities of air items, and miscellaneous small items. A policy was established on the issue and use of protective masks. All USASF personnel will have a protective mask assigned fitted and tested. VNSF personnel and all CIDG both CSF and MSF will not be assigned protective masks. Experience proves that such assignment only results in the loss or damage of the masks and denies their availability to the CIDG when actually needed. A sufficient quantity of masks in appropriate sizes has been provided to each CTZ. These masks will be maintained at the TSP until the tactical situation dictates their uss. Immediately following the emergency the masks will be recovered to the FSP and prepared for the next outingency.
  - (c) Local purchases during the 3 month period:

	Apr	Mar	Feb
Rice	\$ 0	\$ 815.26	\$258 \185.42
Local Purchase	\$11,584.75	\$4,513.49	\$ 2,.19.86
Total	\$11,584.75	\$5,328.75	\$260 505.28

- (2) Maintenance:
- (a) The percentage of deadline equipment for the reporting period was

Apr.	Mar	Feb
2%	2%	2%
2%	2%	2%
3 <b>%</b>	3%	3%
10%	10%	10%
5%	5%	5%
	2% 2% 3% 10%	2% 2% 2% 2% 3% 3% 10% 10%

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

- (b) A country wide shortage of injection pumps and magnetic amplifiers for generators was a major factor for down time in generators throughout the 5th SFGA. These items are not available in-country and must be procured from CONUS through CISO. The average lead time has been 90-120 days.
- (c) A shortage of batteries for 1/4 and 3/4 ton vehicles and a shortage of brake shoes for 3/4 ton vehicles were major factors in down-time for vehicles. These items have been in a shortage during the entire period, and the 1st Logistic Command has cancelled all requisitions submitted. Again requisitions has been placed on CISO in effort to obtain these critical items.
- (3) Movements: fine conversion of CIDG Camp A-234 An Lac on 31 March has resulted in a small decrease of Airland total. This camp received direct resupply by in from the ISC. Campo moved in short tons during the pariod from the ISC was:

	April	March	February	Total
Airland Airdrop Road Convoy Sealift	1,494.4 11.6 40.1 1,060.7	1,963.1 29.1 72.1 125	1,582.1 24.9 21.4 40	5,039.6 65.6 133.6 1,165.7
TOTAL	2,546.8	2,189.3	1,668.4	6 <sub>2</sub> 40Ŀ.5

- (4) The Property Disposal Facilities operated by the 1st Log Comd in Nha Trang were closed. Due to this closure a property disposal collection point was established within the LSC. After classification, all salvage property is transported to Cam Ranh Bay Army Depot for disposal.
- (5) The Group Maintenance Officer has implemented a new density report for ordnance and engineer equipment to reflect the current star is of equipment on hand and deadlined at each Forward Supply Point. The purpo. I of this report is to manage repair parts distribution and reduce EDP time.
- (6) On 1 March the 5th SFGA initiated action to phase-in operations with the ARVN Terminal Command at the Nha Trang Outport facilities. The purpose of this action was to establish coordination and identify problem areas in making the transition from the Alaska Barge and Transport Co (Civilian Contractor) prior to the ARVN Terminal Command assuming complete operational control of the Nha Trang Outport on 1 July 1970.
  - (7) I Corps Tactical Zone: (Company C)
- (a) Supply: This FSP supports 4079 CSF, 699 MSF, and 268 US personnel for a total of 5046 troops. Supply emphasis has been on maintaining an adequate

AV3B-C

SUBJICT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

Rasic load of all classes of supplies and eliminating all excess items of equipment at each detachment. The FSP has received an excessive quantity of rice and each detachment has been selling rice to CDG dependents to alleviate the storage problem. PLI supply has been adequate but there has been a delay in the arrival of programmed shipments of canned mackerel. POL supply has been adequate. Ammunition supply has been reduced considerably due to monetary in itation recently placed on the drawing of ammunition. Other supply categories are adequate with only temporary or minor problem areas. The Naval Support Activity Depot is phasing out and has already turned over many classes of supply to the Army's let Logistical Command. POL in bulk (55 gallon drum) is now provided through the army.

- (b) Maintenance: The vehicle deadline rate remained fairly consistent at about 5%. The primary problem area is evacuating vehicles back from A Detachments and transporting contact teams to the A-Detachments. Jeep engines and water pumps for 3/4 ton trucks are still in short supply. MHE deadline rate dropped to slightly below 30%. The generator deadline rate rose to about 18% and is expected to go higher. The primary problem area is lack of repair parts for the Libby 10 MM generator.
- (c) Carro Movements: Increased land transportation is being utilized, however, only one A-Detachment and one B-Detachment can receive convoys on a routine basis. HA THANH is having extensive repair work on their airstrip and all supplies are being airdropped or delivered by CH-L7. MAI LOC is closed for C-123 aircraft and will close to C-7A aircraft within the coming calendar quarter. The Americal Division will be running weekly convoys to MAI LOC and will allocate trucks for the A-Detachment's resupplies. Cargo moved from the FSP in short tons during the reporting period was:

Airland ~ 2,544.1 Airdrop ~ 60.3 Convoy ~ 368.2 Sealift ~ 162.7 TOTAL: 3,135.3

AVOB -C

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFCR-65 (R2)

- (d) Services: The FSP Maintenance Facility conducted the third of a series of courses for CIDG vehicle and generator mechanics for improving camp maintenance posture. A fourth class is scheduled which will be a higher level skill training for graduates of the first three courses. A notable decline in requests for contact teams has been experienced in camps. The 85th Maintenance Company of the Da Nang Support Command has sent, and has programmed again, a weapons repair contact team to all camps to inspect all howitzers, mortars, recoilless rifles, and any other weapons the camp needs to have repaired. This team has been very successful and brings parts and manuals with them for use on site.
- (e) Change in Support: With the imminent closing of the NSA Depot, the FSP is planning and programming for increased logistical support from ISC and the 1st Logistical Command. This should not have any effect below FSP level.
- (f) Facility Improvements: The FSP completed construction of a new and larger ready-line shed which should increase efficiency of operations between the supply and movements sections. The Maintenance Facility consolidated the Parts Room and Tool Room to reduce personnel requirements. The Maintenance Facility also separated the Motor Pool area from the Maintenance Area to facilitate operations in each area. The lumber yard and outside storage areas have been completely rewarehoused for efficiency.
  - (8) II Corps Tactical Zone (Company B)
- (a) Supply: During the reporting period, Company provided logistical support to 11 A Detachments and three B Detachments. This was accomplished by maximum utilization of available aircraft and truck convoys to camps Plei Djereng, Plei Me, Duc Co, Plei Mrong, and Ben Het. Convoys were run to the cities of Kontum, Nha Trang and Qui Nhon. Local purchases averaged VN \$ 200 per man for the period.
- (b) Maintenance: Maintenance Liaison visits: Sixty visits to A and B Detachments were conducted during the reporting period. Purpose of the visits was to conduct emergency repairs and scheduled preventive maintenance. In the area of Support Maintenance seventy-eight pieces of engineer equipment, sixty-seven pieces of refrigeration equipment and twenty-nine trucks were overhauled and/or repaired. Thirty-seven CIDG received training in maintenance of generators and vehicles. Emphasis was placed on daily maintenance being the key to preventing costly repairs due to neglect of the operator or mechanic. Three foot circular signs were posted through-out the FSP. These are safety signs printed both in English and Vietnamese. The results are better and more courteous drivers and safer conduct by all concerned. An A-frame previously used to pull engines was "einforced for the safety of the maintenance personnel in the motor pool." A special project utilizing two unserviceable 2½ ton truck

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 3C April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

beds and a 5 ton truck were put together to make a suitable truck to transport employees to and from work. Another project was the construction of a block machine which is capable of producing 1,000 cement blocks a day.

(c) Movements: The only problem encountered during the reporting period was enemy anti-aircraft fire around Camp Dak Seang. Weather during the period was generally good. The following amounts of cargo were moved during the reporting period:

Febru <b>ary</b>	Airland Airdrop Con <b>voy</b>	1,811,860 lbs 2,900 lbs 44,8,364 lbs
March	Airland Airdrop Convoy	2,068,179 lbs Negative 521,971 lbs
April	Airland Airdrop Convoy	1,886,399 lbs 718,794 lbs 501,191 lbs

- (d) Services: Logistical support of all class I through V are provided from the PSP Pleiku. The maintenants section, with contact teams from the 62nd Maintenance Battalion and Filipino Technical Representatives assigned to Company B, is responsive to all levels requiring maintenance support.
- (e) Shortages: The following items were in demand and not available in quantity required; treated timbers; light bulbs, office supplies; and air conditioner parts.
- (f) Planned Improvements: Future plans included the completion of asphalting the warehouse area. This area becomes mire during the rainy season, hampering the efficiency of the fork lifts. Revetments in the class V yard are being built and will be completed during the naxt reporting period.
  - (9) III Corps Tactical Zone (Company A)
- (a) Supply: The FSP at Co A support an average of 379 US personnel assigned and attached to the 5th SFGA, 1975 CIDG in 3rd MSFC Long Hai, and 5,000 CSF deployed throughout III CTZ. A Special Operation was conducted in III CTZ by Project Delta (B-52) which required logistical support from Company A FSP. This support of all classes of supplies was charged to B-52

AVGB -D

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFCR-65 (R2)

through LSC. The 3rd MSF conducted operations out of Rang Rang, which required additional support from the 145th Combat Aviation Battalion. This included JP-4 and rockets, which were transported by the FSP Air Movement Section.

- (b) Maintenance: The deadline rate continues to be high for Libby 10KW generators and Hotpoint Porta-Cool air conditioners due to the non-availability of parts. Non-standard equipment such as the above should not be used in a combat zone if the repair parts cannot be delivered by the manufacturer. New or rebuilt & ton engines, transmissions and differentials are still not available through supply channels. This has resulted in a high deadline rate for & ton trucks.
- (c) Air Movements: This headquarters receives two C-7A aircraft daily. These are supplied by the 834th Air Division through II Field Force Vietnam. The majority of troops moved by Company A throughout the III CTZ were signed to the 3rd Mobile Strike Force Command. During the reporting period, a total of 3,897 passengers were moved in 893 sorties. This includes the transport of only the Forward Operational Base and three Battalians assigned to the 3rd Mobile Strike Force Command.
  - (10) IV Corps Tactical Zone (Company D)
- (a) Supply: During this reporting period the S-4 Section supported the following number of personnel: 315 USASF, 5,849 CSF, and 1,705 MSF. In addition logistical support was provided for B-55 in operations with Sea Float and B-40.
- (b) Maintenance: During the month of March, 12 CIDG soldiers were graduated from the Generator Operator Course which makes a total of 42 CIDG soldiers trained as generator operators by the S-4 Section. On 27 April, Generator Repairman Course was started. This is a six week course which will train generator operators in third and fourth echelon maintenance. Daily motor stables using ECCI technicians have been implemented in addition to the previous PM schedules. Deadline equipment is listed below by type:

Equipment Type	March	April April	Remarks
Vahicle MHE Generator Air Conditioner Water Pump & Sampen Outboard Motor Airboat	70% 42% 25% 16% 24% 10%	6% 25% 13% 11% 13% 7% 2%	3- 3/4 Ton Trucks for Backload 1- 10,000 lb for Backload 1- 30 KW for Backload

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Spe. 131 Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

#### REMARKS:

The above deadline equipment is repairable except for the equipment as indicated in the remarks column. The above equipment was backlogged due to non-availability of repair parts.

(c) Movements: The following tomage of supplies were moved during this reporting period.

1.	Airland	1,963 Tons
2.	Airdrop	80 Tons
3.	Convoy	416 Tona
4.	Other	0 Tons
5.	Total Tonnage	2,459 Tons

- (d) Service: Local Class III support is provided by the 547th S&S Co. Their support is outstanding. They always meet our demands. Local Class V support is provided by the 54th Ammo Base Depot. During the month of April they have not been able to meet all of our ammunition requirements and on several occasions we have had to requisition from ISC.
  - (11) B-55 (5th Mobile Strike Force)
- (a) Supply: During the quarter, this Detachment supported an average of 1,390 Mobile Strike Force Troops, and 74 USASF personnel. Two combat operations of battalion size were supported during the quarter. Most significant of these was operation INTREPID, in the 14th STZ, during March and April. The battalion deployed with sufficient equipment to sustain them for 10 days operations, after which logistical support was rendered through the OPCON headquarters, Co D, 5th SFGA. Ten company-size operations were supported during the reporting period, the most significant of which was operation SEA FLOAT, a joint operation with US Navy elements in the southern reaches of IV CTZ. This operation extended over the entire quarter, and is still in progress. Logistical support has been provided throughout the operation directly from this headquarters. Rotation of the companies every 15 days has enabled operational units to deploy with sufficient supplies to sustain themselves over the entire 15 day period in most cases. Only a small amount of items were purchased through the Post Exchange facilities.
- (b) Maintenance: Few problems have been encountered in the maintenance of squipment, due largely to the efforts of the ECCI technical representatives, and command emphasis on maintenance of equipment, with particular emphasis on generators. During operation INTREPID, some technical problems were encountered with the two 3/4 ton trucks which were deployed to Chi Lang; however, this problem was solved by sending one of the Indigenous Civilian Mechanics to Chi Lang to repair and maintain the vehicles.

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- (c) Movements: A total of 128,708 counds of supplies and equipment were moved in support of the SEAFLOAT operation and Operation INTREPID, not including that equipment which was moved by OPCON headquarters. This equipment was moved by Air Force fixed wing aircraft either directly to the final destination, or to an intermediate airfield (as in the case of all increments of the SEAFLOAT operation). From the intermediate airfields, supplies were transported by Army CH-47 Helicopters. The strict, inflexible adherence to Air Force regulations for non-combat essential air movements, which has recently been required by the lith Aerial Port, is placing an extremely difficult burden on the S-4 section of this detachment. Because of the necessity for loading ammunition externally on CH-47 Helicopters, it was discovered that the simplest and most effective way of preparing for this is to place slings on aluminum aircraft cargo pallets (System 463L), and to load the equipment into the slings. Then at the intermediate airfield, when the cargo is transferred from fixed wing to rotary wing aircraft, the sling can be lifted directly off the pallet on which it was initially shipped. When C7A Aircraft are utilized, the solution is to place the container on wooden "skid" pallets.
- (d) Services: The St Section B-55 was able to provide S3, 5th SFGA, with planning data for the resupply of a classified operation to be conducted by a sister detachment. This detachment was able to provide some assistance to Detachment B-t3 in improving camp defenses, in moving supplies, etc. In addition, backloading was kept to a minimum by leaving excess ammunition with the detachment at Chi Lang when B-55 was redeploying to Nha Trang.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

- 1. Engineer.
- (1) Organization: N/A.
- (2) Construction & Rehabilitation: There were 135-906 projects underway at the end of the reporting period. The majority of these projects are well underway. 31 May is the projected completion date for all outstanding projects and there are no new projects programmed at this time.
- (3) Well Drilling Operations: Wells have been completed at Ba Xoai (A-421), To Chau (A-443), Katum (A-322) and Thien Ngon (A-323) during the reporting period. Wells are underway at Ben Het (A-244) and Bu Prang (A-236) at this time. Future wells are planned at Bien Hoa (C-3) and Dak Pek (A-242).
  - (4) Budgeting and Funding: N/A.
- (5) Post Engineers: R&U and maintenance of existing facilities is being increased to a maximum effort in view of the reduction in new construction. Power supply in many camps is still being hampered by unauthorized utilities and improper installation of generators and wiring. This is checked continually by the various Staff Engineers out camps continue to accomplish the unauthorized installations.
- (6) Miscellaneous: Transportation of materials continues to be a problem in II and IV Corps with IV Corps being the hardest hit. The Air Force will not fly material from the LSC to D Company leaving only barge traffic available. D Company depends on Wha Trang for the bulk of its engineer supplies.

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### j. Political Warfare (POLWAR)

#### (1) General:

- (a) S5 activities have stressed the importance of achieving completion of projects utilizing GVN resources. Many Special Forces units have in the past failed to coordinate closely with GVN, CCRDS and MACV agencies. It is now somewhat difficult to gain immediate support from these agencies. This problem is especially significant to those Special Forces units which are turning over converted camps to territorial security command.
- (t) S5, 5th SFGA has begun to infuse the Hamlet Evaluation System (HES) information report as a tool of management within the Group. Dategory ratings of all evaluated hamlets which lie with a 5 km radius of all A-Detachments have been prepared and processed for use by the commander. As the experience factor increases, it is expected that the HES family of reports will become a very important tool for analysis within 5th SFGA.
- (a) Activities were highlighted by the staff visit of MF Flanagan from JFKCENMA at Fort Brage. Presently the Group S5 Section is preparing an indepth staff study to appraise the 5th SFGA S5 program in RVN and to offer concrete proposals for CCNUS training of prospective Givin Action Psychological Operations (CA/PO) Officers and NCO's.

#### (2) Psychological Operations (PSYOPS)

- (a) Problems in general PSYOPS orientation have been brought forth in a bordinate detachment's reports. Generally, it is felt that there is too much emphasis placed upon the Chieu Hci program at the expense of supporting the GVN 1970 Pacification and Development Plan. The importance of political mobilization to RVN must be explained to all of the civilian population, for the time is opportune to establish a viable village self development program and organize the People's Self Defense Force (PSDF). However, the population must be made aware of the importance of these programs.
- . (b) Concerted efforts are being made to involve VNSF 35 personnel in the preparation and planning of PSYOP missions. Coordination is being effected to tax VNAF air assets for leaflet/loudspeaker support and ARVN POLWAR Battalions for printing reproduction assistance.

#### (3) Motivation and Indoctrination (M&I)

(a) During March, S5, 5th SFGA compiled and distributed the first copy of its CA/PO newsletter. This media will attempt to keep subordinate elements informed and up to date with the new developments in the GVN and advisory elements, as well as to clarify current 5th SFGA policies and gold-ance in S5 activities.

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- (b) It has come to Group S5's attention that ARVN POLWAR teams are not carrying out their responsibilities as far as conducting M&I classes for the conversion from CIDG to RF. The Group M&I officer visited several conversion sites where this was the case, and submitted reports to CO, 5th SFGA, and to MACV and ARVN officials in III CTZ.
- (c) The TO&E of the camp POLWAR team was changed from 16 men to 11 men, and POLWAR teams at B and C-Detachments are to be added to table of distribution.

#### (4) Civic Action (CA)

- (a) In keeping with the overall plan of coordinating with GVN agencies, CA projects are designed to fit within the framework of GVN resources and take advantage of VSD as much is possible.
- (b) Agricultural projects are now being utilized more as a vehicle of instruction rather than just a fresh food source. Large farm and animal husbandry projects at the C teams are concentrating on setting up courses of instruction for selected CIDG from camps and dependent villages surrounding Special Forces Detachments.

#### (5) I Corp Tactical Zone (Co C)

- (a) Psychological Operations
- (1) During the reporting period approximately 47,000,000 leaflets were air disseminated on suspected base areas, and trails used by the energy.
- (2) During the period intelligence reports indicated that the enemy in I Corps is having great difficulty acquiring and maintaining an adequate diet. Therefore, he is severely taxing the local population to obtain supplies.
- (3) Thirty sever Hoi Chanhs were reported by the districts surrounding I Corps Camps.
  - (n) Motivation and Indoctrination.

Lectures and rallies by Camp Commanders and POIWAR teams keep the CIDG informed on current events. An evening question and answer period conducted by the camp commander is effective in improving motivation.

#### (6) II Corps Tactical Zone (Co B)

- (a) Psychological Operations
- (1) Major emphasis during the reporting period has been to obtain increased district and province support for civilian communities within the Co B tactical areas of responsibility.
  - (2) Increased attention has been paid to development of the

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Village Self Development program. Additionally, Special Forces S5 personnel have acted as a lisison between GVN and the local villagers in assisting to develop and train People Self Defense Forces in those villages adjacent to A-Detachments,

#### (b) Civic Action.

Two classes for CIDG on agriculture and animal husbandry were conducted on the Heiku farm by S5 personnel. Subjects included crop production, soil preparation, and breeding of livestock.

#### (7) <u>III CTZ (Co ▲</u>)

- (a) Psychological O, Frations.
- (1) B-Detachment S5's are developing specific EEI's on enemy units operating in their respective areas. As EEI's are developed it will become easier to target specific units and insure more timely and accurate responses to their presence.
- (2) Emphasis has also been placed on encouraging the VNSF S5 to assume more responsibility in the planning and execution of POLWAR efforts. The VNSF S5 Section now submits weekly leaflet/loudspeaker requests through proper channels, and recently has become more involved in leaflet design and development. This marks a significant gain over the last reporting period.
  - (b) Civic Action.
- (1) A policy has been established of using USASF manpower, funds and expertise only after all avenues of action have been used and expended thru the Village Self Development Program and RVNAF military civic action programs.
- (2) Because of a reduction in funds many non-essential CA commodity type items have wen eliminated. Although the quantity of the overall civic action program was reduced, it has not effected the quality of Company A's Civic Action Program.
  - (8) IV CTZ (Co D)
    - (a) Psychological Operations.

A PSYOP campaign with primary emphasis placed upon Chieu Hoi's has been initiated in both Border Control Command Region's I and III. PSYOFS leaflets with Chieu Ho1 rally maps containing designated rally points have been printed and disseminated. The PSYOP dissension compaign between the VC/RVA continues in the seven mountains area.

#### (b) Civic Action.

Rabbit breading and poultry progress have been established at Det C-4. Both these programs are designed to provide a diet supplement and will eventually

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be used as a training center for the CIDG.

(9) Detachment B-55.

Mativation and Indoctrination.

Several photographs of actor John Wayne in his latest movies, wearing his Montagnard bracelet were received from Mr Layne. These autographed photographs were reproduced into each of the ethnic languages represented in the 5th Mobile Strike Force Command, given to each CIDG Company Commander and posted on the CIDG bulletin board. This personal identification with a man of Mr Wayne's reputation and esteem to the CIDG has had tremendous motivational value. The John Wayne project has proven highly successful and appeared as a featured article in the April issue of the Green Beret magazine's

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#### k. Personnel.

- (1) Strength: Authorised and assigned strengths at the beginning and at the close of the period were as follows:
  - (a) Beginning of Period: 1 Feb 70

	OFF	MO	<u>en</u>	<u><b>400</b></u>
Authorised:	691	21 <sub>4</sub>	2765	<b>3480</b>
Assigned:	675		2766	3466

(b) Closs of Period: 30 Apr 70

	OFT	MO	EM	<u> 400</u>
Authorised:	691	24	2765	<b>3480</b>
	621	25	2111	3057

(c) Strengths for CTZ's

I CTZ (Co C)

	OFF	EM	
Authorised: Assigned: Assigned:	63 79 68	18) 19; 161	Feb O Apr

II CTZ (Co B)

	OFF	EM	
Anthorised: Assigned: Assigned:	94 113 92	299 331 262	1 Feb 30 Apı

III CTZ (Co A)

	OFF	EH	
Authorised:	99	30 <u>1</u>	1 Feb
Assigned:	100	286	
Assigned	96	252	

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IV CTZ (Co D)

	off	EX	
Authorised: Assigned:	80 92	26ل 24ل	l Feb
Assigned:	79	229	30 Apr

- (2) Replacements: Replacement input has been consistent with our current phaseback program. The objective of filling critical slots, especially in support areas, while allowing for a gradual reduction in group strength is progressively being achieved.
  - (3) Discipline, Law and Order:
  - (a) Judicial Punishment:

#### THIS QUARTER

	February	March	April	Total
General Court-Martial	0	1	0	1
Special Court-Martial	3	1	0	4
Summary Court-Martial	0	0	0	0

#### LAST QUARTER

	November	December	January	Total
General Court-Martial	0	0	0	0
Special Court-Martial	0	2	0	2
Summary Court-Martial	0	0	0	0

(b) Non-Judicial Punishment:

#### THIS QUARTER

	February	March	April	Total
Article 15, UCMJ	18	37	29	814

#### LAST QUARTER

	November	December	January	Total
Article 15, UCMJ	28	15	23	66

AWEB-C

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- (c) Legal Assistance: Legal assistance was rendered to 323 clients, a decrease of 133 from the past purter.
  - (d) Provost Marshal Activities.

	FEB	MAR	APR	TOTAL
Pass Violation	3	0	0	3
Off Limits Violation	8	23	7	38
Curfew Violation	3	n	3	17
Traffic Violation	3	22	<u>11</u> ,	39
Multiple Violation	ı	<b>j</b>	3	8
AFOL	0	1	0	1
Others	17	23	18	58
TOTAL	35	84	145	164

- (4) Morale and Personnel Services.
- (a) The following RLR allocations were received by the 5th SF Gp (Abn) for the last quarter.

SITE	FE	MAR	APR
TOKTO	19	20	15
BANGKOK	58	75	65
TAIPET	20	27	30
SYDNEY	48	57	68
HANTLA	7	6	6
HAMAII	85	100	85
HONG KONG	40	48	35
SINGAPORE	o	o	0
TOTALS	277	333 57	304

APOD-C

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5th SF Op (Abn) has been allocated, on the average, 23 less spaces per month on Rel flights than during the previous reporting period.

(b) Promotions: A total of 303 promotions were effected by this headquarters.

#### (c) Recalistment:

The following are the 5th SF Op (Abn) Recollistment Statistics for the last quarter.

CATEGORY	ELIOIBIE	HE ENLISTED	PERCENTAGE
RA lat TERM	76	Off .	5 <b>.2</b> %
RA Career	76	76	100%
AUS, Draftee	52	00	00%
NG/Reservist	Off	Of	100%
GROUP TOTALS	208	84	43≴

#### REMARKS:

- 1. 31 RM extended their ETS
- 2. Two EM discharged Convenience of Government, accepting Commissions in USAR.
  - 3. There were no amendments.
- (d) Postal. The following statistics represent number of certified, insured and registered pieces of mail handled by SFOB.

INSU	RED MAIL	REGIS	TERED I	OUT		OPER IF I	D HAIL
PEB	<b>1</b>		226	FEB	<b>2</b> 48	FB	51
MAR	226	MAR	يلا2	MAR	262	MAR	41
APR	187	APR	180	APR	<u> 258</u>	APR	<u>117</u>
TOTAL	557		<b>9</b> †0		768		133

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#### (e) Awards and Decorations:

1. The total number of decorations awarded to 5th SF Gp (Abn) personnel for the period ending 30 April 1970.

AHARD	FEB	MAR	APR
MH	0	0	0
DSc	1	0	0
DFC	0	0	1
SS	10	21	5
IM	14	0	1
SM	1	5	0
BS-V	29	48	101
BS	222	276	139
AM-V	1	15	25
MA	53	79	95
ACM-V	10	16	15
ACM	70	88_	<u> 38</u>
TOTAL	401	548	420
CIB	64	103	66
CMB	9	19	22
PH	37	24	19

<sup>5</sup> Amards of the Bronse Star and below are approved by 5th SF Gp (Abn). Silver Star to Distinguished Service Crosses are approved by USARV.

<sup>3.</sup> Percentage of each unit's personnel who were decorated for the period ending 30 April 1970:

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		VALOR		<u>51</u>	RVICE/AC	HIEVENENT
UNIT	FEB	MAR	<u>APR</u>	FIS	MAR	APR
A	1.56	2.72	4.51	4.6	8.0	11.0
В	1.87	8. <b>≸</b> 6	21.05	11.9	19.5	11.9
C	0.36	2.38	1.72	6.9	4.0	2.2
D	3.61	5.88	8.6	9.7	8.5	7.0
E	0.00	0,00	0.00	2.2	7.4	0.6
HHC	0.00	0.00	J•00	11.5	14.1	5.5
CCN	2.88	10.00	.43	٠.0	13.8	5.6
CCS	2.15	2.57	4.23	9.9	19.8	11.3
occ	2.16	2,36	2.82	12.6	15.6	2.8
OTHER	1.01	1.14	1.70	19.0	24.8	22.2

#### (f) Special Services.

- 1. General. The Group has been active in sports during this reporting period. Arrangements were made with USARV Special Services for the establishment of a craft shop and photo-lab. The estimated completion date is 1 July 1970.
- 2. Library. Attendance in the library was 475 for February 485 for March and 490 for March 1970.

Services Conducted

#### (g) Religious Activities.

Attendanc	•	3646		
Group Parish Activities			Invocation/Bane	dictions
Hospital Visits	69		Conducted	14
Counseling	343		Attendance	243

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Interviews	3176	Staff Meetings	158
Communion Services	177	Camps Visits	396
C/A Psyops Activities	19	Camps Visited	159
Memorial Services	12		
Attendance	873		

(5) Personnel Management: Personnel management has experienced a minimum of complications. All MOS's have been available for assignment except OSC and MI personnel which have not been filled against requisitions sufficient to meet DEROS and unprogrammed losses. Qualified Civil Affairs and PSYOPS personnel are also not available due to the termination of SF CAPO schools, Ft Bragg, N.C..

#### (6) Civilian Personnel:

(a) General. The civilian personnel office continued to monitor promotions, hiring and other personnel actions closely to insure that strengths and grades did not rise above the authorized strengths and grades. Recommendations and comments were received for the staff and units on the proposed civilian TD. They will be evaluated and the Final Civilian TD published sometime in May 1970.

(b) The following is a breakdown of the civilian employees by units.

	FEB	MAR	APR		<u>PR</u>	MAR	APR
Co A	494	494	478	B-52	64	56	66
Co B	576	555	566	B-55	81	83	81
Co C	346	348	350	<b>JCCD</b>	163	163	162
Co D	396	392	371	SPOB	577	582	574
B <b>-</b> 51	54	574	574	TOTAL	2751	2727	2702

(c) The following is a breakdown of the number of employees hired and terminated at the SFOB.

AVGO-C SUBJECT:

Operational Report - Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. ECS OBFOR-65 (B2)

	<u>FB</u>	MAR	APR	TOTAL
Hired	61	89	46	196
Terminated	106	69	51	226

- (7) Miscellaneous: The following are miscellaneous activities programs conducted by 5th SF Gp (Abn) during the last quarter.
- (a) CIDG Strength and Accounting. CIDG strength for February was 30,587 and March was 29,534. All the reports for April have not been received so no figure is available for April 1970.
  - (b) Safety.
- 1. General. Safety news letters and command letters on Safety continued to be published monthly.
  - 2. Injuries and Deaths by Accidents.

	FB	MAR	<u>APR</u>	TOTAL
Injuries	u	8	7	26
Deaths	1	14	0	5

AYGB-SU

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

#### . 1. Medical

#### (1) USASF Medical Care.

- (a) The capability of providing USASF personnel with unitlevel medical care remains unchanged. USARV hospital medical support has remained excellent during the reporting period; however, this support is expected to be reduced during the next quarter. The Naval Support Activity hospital in I Corps Tactical Zone withdrew during the reporting quarter leaving the 95th Evacuation Hospital and the Hospital Ship Sanctuary to provide all US hospital care in that area.
- (b) Furing the reporting period, the two Group Dental Officers undertook a program to visit all 5th SFGA detachments to render dental care. Minty-five percent of this goal had been achieved at the end of April.
- (2) CIDG Medical Care. CIDG medical capabilities are being expanded to meet the requirement being placed by the imminent USARV hospital phasedown: an X-ray unit is being obtained for a dispensary at Kontum to provide support to northern II Corps camps and CCC, and to reduce the load on the CIDG hospital at Pleiku; the B-55 dispensary at Mha Trang is being expanded in bedspace and an X-ray unit is on order for this dispensary which will serve as a hospital for Mha Trangarea CIDG troops.
- (3) The Company A medical supply warehouse was destroyed 1 April by enemy rocket fire at a loss of \$90,000, but has been replaced. Medical supply drawdowns for the 5th SFGA for the reporting period totaled \$211,85h.11. Percentage-fill dropped to ninty-five percent because of a directive to the Medical Supply Officer to maintain no due-outs from the 32nd Medical Depot since ? April 1970. This directive resulted in submitting requisitions on a hit-or-miss basis to the depot until the directive was recinded at the end of April.
- (4) Training Programs. Vigorous efforts have been made to accelerate training programs for the Vietnamese, both CIDG and VNSF. Standardized programs of instruction were developed or obtained from ARVN/Manistry of Health sources and published for the training of CIDG medics, village and district health workers, camp sanitation teams, emergency medical care, and health education aides. Medicine, dental, veterinary, and preventive medicine specialists are being trained by VNSF (with USASF advisors monitoring) in order to assist in offsetting the shortage of professional

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practitionity in these areas. Efforts are continuing to win GVN certification for medics, nurses, and other health workers now employed at the CIDS medical care facilities.

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#### m. Signal.

(1) Operations: During the reporting period all-elements of the 5th Speccial rorces Group communications system continued to provide highly responsive and reliable command and control communications to Headquarters, 5th Special Forces Group and its subordinate detachments.

A high quality half duplex microwave secure teletype circuit was installed between Detachment C-1 at Da Nang and Detachment B-11 at Chu Lai on 10 January 1970. Activation of this circuit completed Detachment C-1's internal teletype network.

Beginning 10 March 1970 an analysis of the emergency communication capabilities of each A and B Detachment was conducted. Operational tests were performed to insure each detachment retained both an AM and FM capability even though the primary communications bunker, generators and all above ground antenna systems are destroyed. Test results were highly successful and those few detachments requiring assistance have been furnished equipment and/or expertise in order to achieve desired results.

On 15 April 1970, FM secure voice communications from Detachment C-1 at Da Nang to Detachment A-101 at Mai Loc was established through a XXIV Corps secure retransmission station. This link has proven to be an invaluable addition to the singlesideband circuit between above mentioned detachments.

During this quarter, utilization of tactical FM secure voice communications reached a high level. The widespread use of secure voice in all four corps tactical zones has tremendously enhanced the 5th Special Forces Group's Communications Security posture.

- (2) Training: The persistent shortage of 05C personnel within this command has necessitated a program in which 05B personnel are crosstrained in teletype operations. Daily instructions in addition to on-the-job training are presently being conducted.
- (3) Kew Concepts/Equipment: A special quality data circuit (secure tele-phone) for petachment C-3 has been approved and the equipment received. Detachment C-3 is currently installing the equipment. This link will facilitate coordination of classified information between Headquarters, 5th Special Forces Group, Detachment C-3 and IIFFV Headquarters.

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#### n. Comptroller:

(1) A new 5th SFGA Regulation 37~1 took effect on 1 March 1970. Several significant changes from the old regulation wars made. A single salary system was introduced for CIDG, combining base pay, allowances and insentives; only CRP and airborne incentive pay remain separate. A pay raise of 4005VH for all grades was introduced in March, but was reduced in April to rates more equitable with those currently being paid other Vietnamese armed forces. The basic subsistence rate for CIDG was increased to 755VH per day.

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- 2. (C) Section 2, Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations, and Recommendations.
  - a. Personnel: None.
  - b. Intelligence:
  - (1) Destruction of Unclassified Waste.

(HQ, S2)

- (a) OBSERVATION: It has been recently discovered that Vietnamese merchants in several populated areas near Allied installations are utilizing unclassified waste to wrap merchandise.
- (b) EVALUATION: Unclassified waste, although not containing classified defense information is nonetheless subject to exploitation by the enemy, and should be destronous whenever possible before reaching the local populace.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: Measures should be taken to ensure that waste material, even though unclassified, is not acquired by foreign nationals. Such waste should be destroyed by burning whenever possible.
  - (2) Productivity of Counterintelligence Nets.

(Co A)

- (a) OBSERVATION: It has been noted through the study of intelligence reports and fund expenditures that many counterintelligence nets have not been fully productive due to the type of Essential Elements of Information and Other Intelligence Requirements being levied upon counterintelligence agents.
- (b) EVALUATION: Hard Essential Elements of Information such as "Known VC among camp personnel", "VC/NVA sympathizers in the camp", "Persons in camp who have a reputation of being troublemakers", and "Persons in camp who have information of a collection nature" are very seldom answered in the affirmative on a regular basis. Because of the low level of operations and the fact that the type of intelligence information above is seldom discovered, the agents in the counterintelligence nets become unproductive. Not being able to answer the above type questions, the agents do not report anything and thus are not paid. Without being paid, which in the majority of cases is the motivating factor, the agents lose all interest in working in the counterintelligence net. As a result, Intelligence Report production either drops or becomes unreliable. Continued utilization of counterintelligence nets under these conditions will not provide complete intelligence coverage within the counterintelligence area of interest. The agents do not report regularly, are not training regularly, and are thus not paid regularly.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: In addition to the hard Essential Elements of Information mentioned in subparagraph (2) (b) above, counterintelligence net case officers should levy upon their agents security related EEI such as "Morals of employees", "Rumors among employees", "Reports of stealing and/or suspects of stealing", and "Report on any security weaknesses." This type levy results in (1) an answer of yes, no, or indifference; (2) regular meetings with the agent; (3) regular opportunities for continued training; and (4) most importantly, the response obtained when properly

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recorded and evaluated can lead to early indicators of possible positive information concerning hard Essential Elements of Information.

- (3) Continued Enemy Use of Old Base Camps.
- (a) CTGRVATION: VC/NVA forces frequently utilize partially destroyed bunkers in supposedly old and abandoned base camps as living areas and fighting rositions.
- (b) EVALUATION: USAF forward air controllers and FMAF groupress recently reported finding old enemy base camps containing partial destroyed bunkers that are still in use. Many of these bunkers had been as much as 50% destroyed by artillery and airstrikes. No repairs or improvements had been made, thus giving the appearance of complete abandonment. In some cases additional tunnels had been dug in the still-covered portion of the bunkers.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: Continual close surveillance by aerial observers and ground forces should be placed on old, partially destroyed bunker complexes. Any indication of renewed use of these bunkers should warrant reaction by air, artillery, or ground elements. Then possible, actions should be taken to completely destroy all structures that can be of any use to the enemy.
  - (4) Debriefing of Personnel.

(Co A)

- (a) OBSERVATION: While advisory personnel are being debriefed at the conclusion of operations, it has been noted frequently that many indigenous personnel are not being debriefed at the conclusion of the same operation.
- (b) EVALUATION: Indigenous unit leaders have considerable combat experience, and are often able to report items of operational or intelligence value overlooked or unobserved by advisory personnel.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That indigenous unit leaders as well as advisory personnel be debriefed at the conclusion of operations.
  - c. Operations: Reduction in Enemy KIA's.

(Co B)

- (1) CBSERVATION: During recent months, the number of enemy killed as a result of friendly initiated contacts has dropped considerably.
- (2) EVALUATION: This decrease in para-military forces effectiveness can be attributed to two factors, poor marksmanship and lack of aggressiveness. Contacts initiated at a distance of 10 meters by friendly forces which result in negative enemy casualties is the result of poor marksmanship. Contacts at greater distances, both friendly and enemy initiated, result in many cases, in friendly forces immediately assuming a defensive posture, thus allowing the enemy to police the contact area and break contact.

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- (3) RECOMMENDATION: To increase the effectiveness of para-military forces the following is recommended: (1) Advisors must influence their counterparts to give increased formal marksmanship and weapons training. Coupled with this increased formal training a program of informal off duty marksmanship competition should be initiated. In the past para-military forces have been very receptive to informal competition especially if small prizes are awarded. (2) Advisors must influence their counterpart to increase formal training in combat formations, fire and movement and fire and maneuver, stressing the concept that victory on the battlefield goes to the force that most effectively and aggressively maneuvers its combat power to neutralize, overcome and finally pursue the enemy force.
  - d. Organization: None.
  - e. Training: Artillery.

(Co B)

- (1) OBSERVATION: The para-military personnel have been very receptive to the APVN and U.S. Mobile Training Teams (MTT's) which have conducted artillery training on site.
- (2) EVALUATION: The use of MTT's in artillery training eliminates the need for transporting Indigenous troops to and from a training center. The troops are able to train on their own weapons with instruction oriented toward peculiarities of their tactical area. The training remains standardized and the local advisors are able to monitor the training received by the troops.
- (3) RECOMMENDATION: That the Mobile Training Team concept be widely accepted for para-military artillery training.
  - f. Logistics: Use of Discarded Flare Containers.

(B-41, Co D)

- (1) OBSERVATION: Aircraft Parachute Flares come in styrofoam containers, which are usually discarded after the flares have been used.
- (2) EVALUATION: Rather than destroy or discard these containers, there are several ways in which they can be useful. The foam is a natural insulator. Some buildings such as TOC's, COMMO, and medical bunkers which use air-conditioners to cool equipment could use this type of insulation. Cooler air is maintained for a longer period of time and the temperature difference is quite noticeable when using this form of insulation. In addition the same foam torn into small pieces and dissolved in gasoline will result in a glue or a thickened fuel much like napalm. By dissolving, applying to a surface, and allowing to dry, a strong adhesive is formed. By dissolving and sealing in a container the fuel remains in the thickened state and does not dry.
- (3) RECOMMENDATION: That these secondary uses be put into practice as the situation warrants.
  - g. Communications: None.
  - h. Material: None.

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AVOB -C

Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Operational Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSTOR-65 (R2)

- i. Political Marfare:
- (1) Agriculture/Animal Husbandry.

(HQ, S5)

- (a) OBSERVATION: In many instances personnel assigned to jobs in the S5 field have little or no first hand knowledge of agriculture or animal husbandry, nor have they had any actual experience or training in either field. Many projects in this area fail because this lack of knowledge prevents S5 personnel from properly planning and corrying out a new project.
- (b) EVALUATION: Prior to initiating an agriculture/animal husbandry project, the S5 advisor must conduct a thorough evaluation of the proposed project.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: (1) That basic instruction in agriculture and animal husbandry be taught to prospective Special Forces and S5 personnel at the USAJFKCENMA, Fort Bragg, N.C., and the Civil Affairs School, Fort Gordon, Georgia. A study prepared by S5, 5th SFGA, 1st SF recommending such instruction is being forwarded to CG, USAJFKCEMMA, Fort Bragg, N.C. (2) That an agriculture/animal husbandry field manual be compiled for S5 personnel operating in underdeveloped countries. (3) To insure success of a given project, it is recommended that S5 advisors insure that: (a) The proposed project is practical and will benefit the people. (b) The proposed project is one the people desire. (c) Selected personnel have been trained in agriculture techniques and are capable of maintaining the project with a minimum of supervision. (d) The proposed project has been coordinated with the local agriculture advisor, the local veterinarian, and with the local governmental officals. (e) Adequate facilities are available to house and protect the proposed livestock. (f) A source of supply is available to feed the livestock. (g) The village/hamlet chief will assume responsibility for the upkeep, care and protection of livestock, garden plots, etc.
  - (2) Role of the S5.

(HO. S5)

- (a) OBSERVATION: Often staff personnel at all levels have a stereotype view of the S5 function and apabilities and tend to over-look that staff office in operational planning and utilization in field operations. The ignorance of the S5's capabilities in the fields of PSTOPS and POH'AR can gravely affect a unit's mission, whether on the field of battle and/or dealing with civilian populace.
- (b) EVALUATION: Since an active and timely reaction from the S5 can contribute greatly to the mission's effectiveness, it is imperative that action be taken to eliminate this problem. There are five problem areas which diminish the effectiveness of the S5: (1) Lack of coordination between, S2, S3 and S5. (2) Lack of qualified personnel in the S5 field. (3) Ignorance of the important role of POLMAR. (4) Improper utilization of the S5. (5) Unwillingness to support the S5.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: The S5 should brief the other staff members on S5 functions, capabilities and limitations. Units without an S5 should be

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SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSTOR-65 (R2)

made aware of S5 responsibilities and consider implementing S5 activities in their operations. The S5 activities should receive command emphasis and the S5 should be included to advise and assist in the planning of any mission in the field requiring the warning of civilians, lessening of enemy morale, and the weakening of VC/:VA hold on civilians. Any significant achievement, as a direct result of S5 efforts should be recognized and the members of the command be made aware of the results.

(3) PSYOPS Exploitation of VC/MVA Atrocities.

(HQ, S5)

- (a) OBSERVATION: The VC/NVA have been able to turn EURAF/T MAP propaganda exploiting VC/NVA atrocities to their own use on several occasions due to the lack of careful planning by PSYOPS presonnel.
- (b) EVALUATION: Because propaganda intended to direct the peoples attention to VC/NVA atrocities was not carefully prepared, the enemy was able to turn leaflets pictorially depicting civilians killed by the VC/NVA into anti-Chieu Hoi leaflets supposedly representing Hoi Chanhs who had rallied and had been assassinated by the VC/NVA.
- (c) RECOMMENDATION: That all personnel involved in the preparation of propaganda carefully scrutinize their work for anything that would give the enemy a chance to use that same propaganda to his benefit, particularly pictures of the dead.
  - j. Engineer: Sandbag Conservation.

(B-41, Co D)

- (1) OBSERVATION: Sandbags for construction or repair of bunker and overhead cover are becoming increasingly hard to obtain in the Delta region.
- (2) EVALUATION: The extremely heavy rains in Vietnam quickly deteriorate sandbags which weakens the defensive structure of the camp, as well as giving the overall impression of being rundown. Many houses in Vietnam are made of an adobe-type mud, mixed with straw which, when dried, becomes hard as concrete and withstands the hardest rains. By using this same type mud to adobe the existing bunkers, the problem of deteriorating sandbags is eliminated. The cover is increased and the camp's appearance is improved.
- (3) RECOMMENDATION: That this method of construction be included in publications for individuals working in developing areas of the world.
  - k. Medical: Professional Medical Personnel.

(HO, Surg)

- (1) OBSERVATION: Vietnam does not have enough professional medical personnel to perform all of the required services, either within ARVN or in the civilian field.
- (2) EVALUATION: In order to implement Vietnamization, USAST advisors have assisted their VNSF counterparts in implementing training programs to produce VNSF enlisted specialists in Dental, Veterinary, and preventive medicine areas. These enlisted specialists are very highly trained in order that graduates can substitute in a limited manner for fully trained

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Dentists, Veterinarians, and Preventive Medicine doctors in the same way that USASF medics substitute, with limitations, for a foctor. Such training can be applied elsewhere within ARVN, and also in the civilian medical field.

(3) RECCMENDATION: (1) Advisors to the ARVN and Minister of Health consider the possibility of such short-term training of sub-professionals to help fill the gap until enough professional Veterinarians, Dentists, and Public Health doctors are provided in RVN. (2) Medical planners consider the need for such training at a much earlier stage in the conduct of future military assistance programs.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

8 Incl

See Table of Contents Pg 8-1 Incls 2,3,6,7,8 wd HQ DA

LP.B. MERRICK

LTC, Infantry Adjutant

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1 - CO, 6th SFG (Abn), 1st SF, Fort Bragg, N.C. 28307 1 - CO, 7th STG! (Abn), 1st SF, Fort Bragg, N.C. 28307 1 - CO, 8th SFG (Abn), 1st SF, APO 09837 1 - CO, 10th SFGA, 1st SF, Ft Devens Mass. 01433 1 - CO, Special Forces Det (Abn), Europe APO NY 09050

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AVHCC-DST (15 May 70) ist Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group

n) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSF0R-65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 0

To: 'Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacinic, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

- 1. (U) This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 5th Special Forces Group (Abn).
- 2. (C) Comments follow:
- a. (C) Reference item concerning "Army Aviation Support", page 39, paragraph ig(4)(a). XXIV Corps has recently provided two (2) UH-1H aircraft to Company C, 5th Special Forces Group, on a dedicated basis. XXIV Corps is advising this unit to submit an appropriate, formal request if an additional, dedicated aircraft is required. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.
- b. (C) Reference item concerning "Army Aviation Support", page 40, paragraph 1g(6)(a). US helicopter assets, in the form of assault helicopter companies and cargo helicopters, are provided III Corps by IIFFV on a daily basis for further allocation to units which have requested this type support through III Corps. Other aviation assets, such as the additional aircraft cited in this ORLL, are allocated directly to the requesting units by IIFFV based upon priorities established by CG, IIFFV. This unit has been advised to coordinate directly with IIFFV for the additional aircraft required. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.
- c. (C) Reference item concerning "Destruction of Unclassified Waste", page 67, paragraph 2b(1): concur. Although classified waste material must be destroyed, every attempt will also be made to destroy unclassified waste. Even though unclassified waste does not contain classified information, there may be some item in it for which the enemy is looking. Item will be considered for inclusion in the next issue of USARV Combat Intelligence Lessons. No action by DA or USARPAC is recommended.

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DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIE 5200.10

AVHGC-DST ('5 May 7.) 1st Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

- d. (C) Reference item concerning "Productivity of Counterintelligence Nets", page 67, paragraph 2b(2): nonconcur. Paid informants should not become involved with information regarding larcenies, thefts, moral turpitude or other criminal acts. Reporting of this type of information is likely to lead to too frequent contact between the agent and the case officer which could lead to compromise of both operatives within a counterintelligence net. An agent should not be paid to provide information that is not needed by the Commander to accomplish his mission. If payment is made for just any scrap of information reported, agents are likely to resort to reporting only this information since it is far easier to obtain and, in most cases, does not jeopardize the life of the individual who reports it as does reporting of information regarding VC NVA activities, cache sites, and known VC personalities. When this sort of activity begins, it is virtually impossible to identify significant information. Therefore, the recommendation that an agent handler should levy security related EEI on their agents is valid but these EEI should be clearly intelligence related and levied as being of secondary importance and stress. Unit has been so advised.
- e. (C) Reference item concerning "Continued Enemy Use of Old Base Camps", page 68, paragraph 2b(3): consur: Item will be considered for inclusion in the next issue of USARV Combat Intelligence Lessons. No action by DA or USARPAC is recommended.
- f. (C) Reference item concerning "Debriefing of Personnel", page 68, paragraph 2b(4): concur. Item will be considered for inclusion in the next issue of USARV Combat Intelligence Lessens. No action by DA or USARPAC is recommended.
- g. (U) Reference item concerning "Agriculture/Animal Husbandry", page 70, paragraph 2i(1): concur with the recommendation, however, parts (1) and (2) reflect a local requirement of Special Forces. Guidelines on implementing new programs and starting new projects are contained in USARV Regulation 515-1 and USARV Pamphlet 515-1. Action by USCONARC is recommended.
- h. (U) Reference item concerning "Role of S5", page 70, paragraph 2i(2): concur. There are numerous Army field manuals describing the functions and responsibilities of an S5 and describe his activities. This recommendation can be implemented by the local commander in his area of responsibility. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.

AVHGC-LST (15 May 70) 1st Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned of 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for the Period Ending 30 April 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

- i. (U) Reference item concerning "PSYOP Exploitation of VC/NVA Activities", page 71, paragraph 21(3): concur. Policy and guidelines on preparation of propaganda to counter the effects of VC/NVA terrorism and atrocities are contained in MACV Directive 525-203. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.
- j. (U) Reference item concerning "Sandbag Conservation", page 71, paragraph j(1): concur. Although this Headquarters was not furnished information concerning the availability of adobe-type mud or the amount of time necessary to construct adobe bunkers, this method of construction has merit in the right locale.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

5th Special Forces Gp

Cy fu\_n:

MACV

Clark W. Stevens Jr.

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GPOP-DT (15 May 70) 2d Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 5th Special Forces Group (Abn) for Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2)

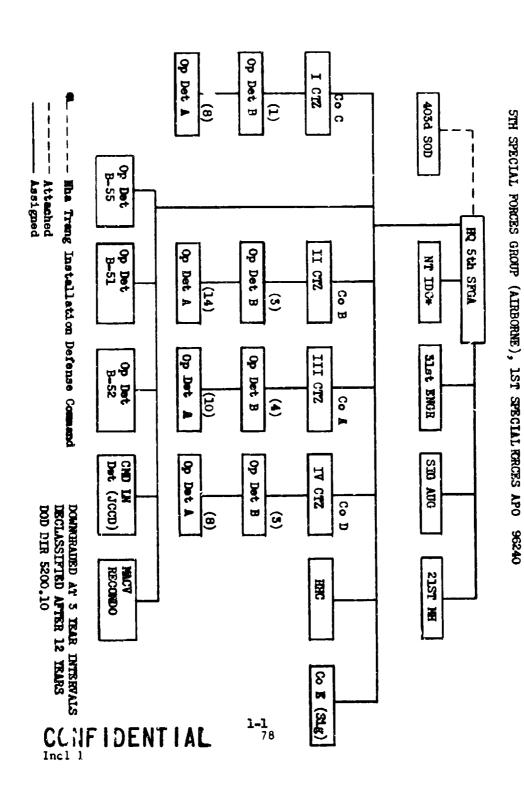
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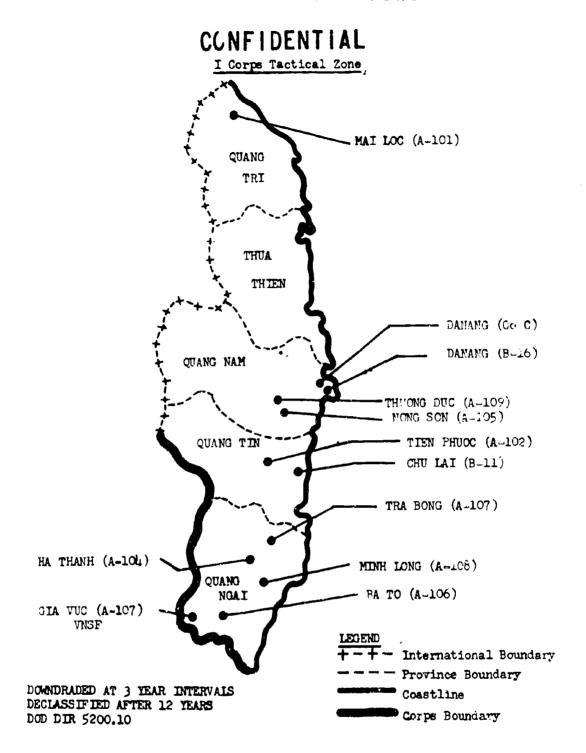
TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

CPT, AGC



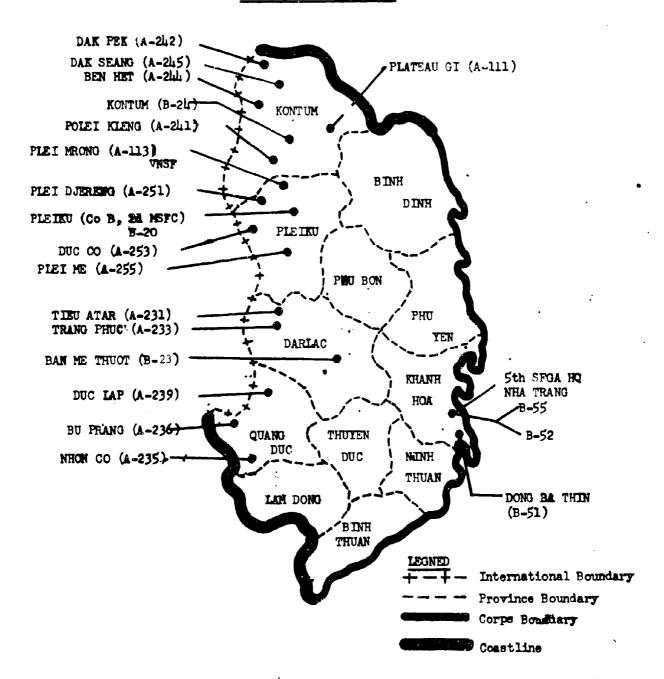


Incl 4 to 5th SFGA CRLL for the Period Ending 30 April 1970.

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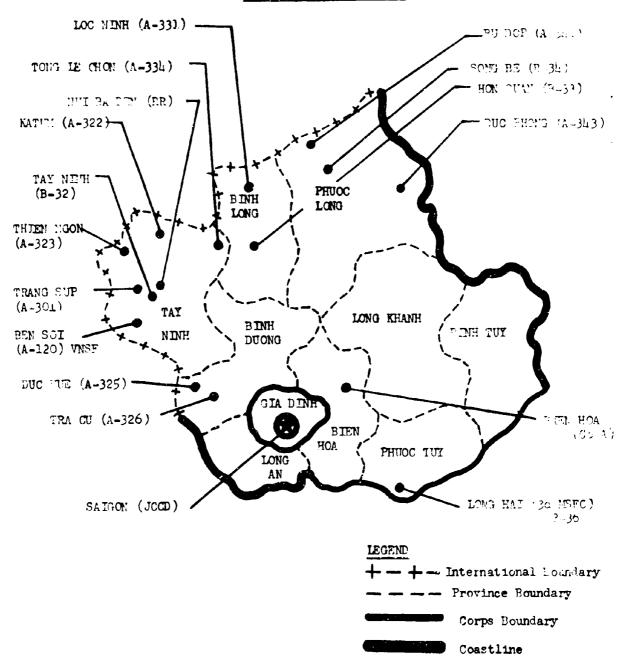
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II Corps Tactical Zone



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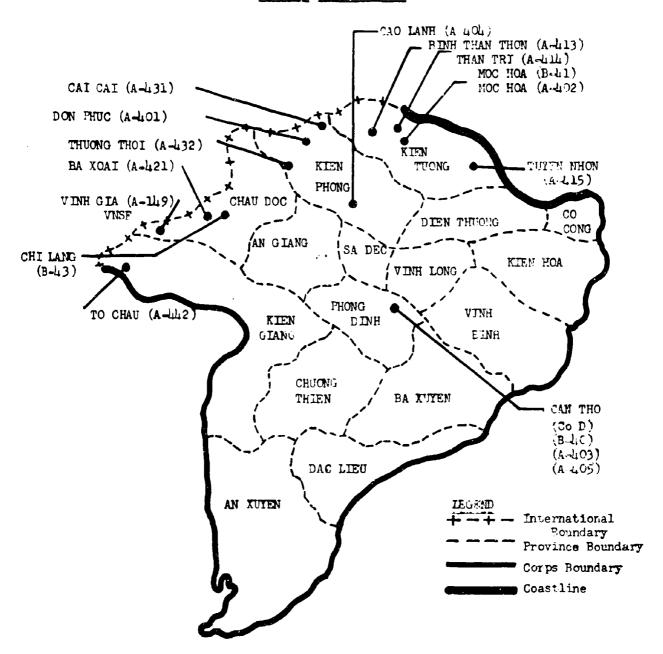
III Corps Tactical Zone



## CONFIDENTIAL

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IV Corps Tactical Zone



## CONFIDENTIAL

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# CONFIDENTIAL STATISTICAL DATA

1. (0	) Missions:	I CT2	II CTZ	III CTZ	IV CTZ	RF/PF	TOTAL
4	• Squad	690	2700	2528	14450	313	10,651
t	. Plateon	1452	3308	1497	3958	126	10,351
c	. Company or Larger	589	1441	243	450	84	2,807
2. (0	Contacts:						
8	. Fr initiated	134	145	90	98	38	505
t	. VC initiated	45	86	99	55	4	289
c	. Incidents	22	131	99	32	10	294
3. (0	C) Confirmed enemy	losses:					
ŧ	a. KIA	287	797	107	428	68	1687
ŧ	. Cptr	62	20	6	34	9	131

c. Quarterly Comparison of Confirmed Enemy Losses Country-Wide:

Nov-Jan 69 Feb-Apr 69 May-Jul 69 Aug-Oct 69 Nov-Jan 70 Feb-Apr 70	1142 2099 1466 113 1301 1687	5 3 4	CPTR 302 11:7 85 128 106 131		
4.(C) USASF losses:					
a. KIA	1	2	3	5	11
b. WIA	10	56	20	34	120
c. MIA		1			. 1

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Incl 5 to 5th SFGA ORLL for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1970.

#### STATISTICAL DATA (CONT)

d. Quarterly comparison of USASF casualties country-wide:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	<u> 10 tal</u>
Nov-Jan 69	<u>kIA</u> 10	67	0	77
Feb-Apr 69	19	1	3	163
May-Jul 69	18	<b>8</b> 6	2	106
Aug-Oct 69	7	58	1	66
Nov Jan 70	12	77	0	89
Feb-Apr 70	11	120	1	132

#### 5. (C) VNSF Losses:

a. KIA	I CTZ O	CTZ 3	III CTZ 1	17 CTZ 10	TOTAL
b. WIA	2	8	5	5	20
c. MIA	0	0	0	0	0

#### d. Quarterly comparison of VNSF casualties country-wide:

	KIA	MIA	MIA	TOTAL
Nov-Jan 69	<b>KTA</b> 10	22	<del>0</del>	32
Feb-Apr 69	23	99	3	125
May-Jul 69	5	31	1	37
Aug-Oct 69	2	26	С	28
Nov-Jan 70	8	23	0	31
Feb-Apr 70	14	22	0	<b>3</b> 6

#### 6. (C) CIDG Losses:

(1, 1211 2 2021		I CTA	I.I CTZ	III CT2	IV CT2	TOTAL
a. KIA		45	88	<u>CT2</u> 58	76	267
b. WIA		129	329	280	263	1,001
c. MIA	* ••	0	1	0	1	2

#### d. Quarterly comparison of CIDG casualties country-wide:

	KIA	MIA	MIA	TOTAL
Nov-Jan 69	273	<u> 168</u>	28	1951
Feb-Apr 69	283	1618	50	2051
May-Jul 69	292	1370	27	1689
Aug-Oct 69	213	984	53	1250
Nov-Jan 70	199	10'17	6	1252
Feb-Apr 70	267	1007	2	1276

#### STATISTICAL DATA (CONT)

#### 7. (C) RF/PF Losses:

	I CTZ ONLY
a. KIA	9
b. WJA	5
c. MIA	0

d. Quarterly comparison of RF/PF casualties country-wide:

	KIA	MI A	<u>MIA</u>	TOTAL
Nov-Jan 69	<u>6</u>	<del>2</del> 3	₹	29
Feb-Apr 69	6	ų.	1	11
May-Jul 69	3	3	2	8
Aug-Oct 69	4	5	0	9
Nov-Jan 70	1	8	0	9
Feb-Apr 70	9	5	0	14

8. (C) Weapons:

	I CTZ	II CTZ	III CTZ	IV CTZ	RF/FF	TOTAL.
a. Frndly Wpns lost	7	5	20	47	0	79
b. Wpns Cptr	103	169	1059	377	13	1721

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